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Hongkong Telegraph

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 1931. 日四十月一

FORT DUNLOP
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CITY WIPED OUT IN EARTHQUAKE.

DEVASTATING FIRE ADDS TO HAVOC.

NICARAGUAN CAPITAL LAID IN RUINS.

THOUSAND PERISH.

ONE DEVASTATING earthquake shock, lasting only a few seconds, followed by a disastrous blaze, laid waste the city of Managua, the capital of Nicaragua, in Central America, yesterday morning, taking a toll of life and property exceeding in extent the catastrophe in New Zealand in February.

Over a thousand have been killed, according to the latest estimates, and the number of injured runs into several thousands. The total population of the city does not exceed 35,000, and the proportion of casualties is, therefore, enormous.

The majority of the buildings in the city were shattered and wrecked by the shock. Immediately there came a burst of flame in the centre of the business area, and within a short time, the fire was sweeping the town. Among the casualties are American women and children. The British Legation has been destroyed by fire, but there is no information regarding the fate of the British Minister.

MANAGUA CATASTROPHE.

Panama City, Mar. 31.
A terrific earthquake has destroyed the city of Managua, the capital of the Republic of Nicaragua, which has a population of approximately 34,000. The quake has wrecked the entire city, and the few houses left standing are reported to be on fire.

New York, Mar. 31.
Managua, the capital of Nicaragua, was shaken by a violent earthquake at ten o'clock this morning, and it appears to have rendered practically every building untenable and to have taken a heavy toll of life.

City in Ruins.

The collapse of the majority of the buildings in the city is reported by a local wireless operator, who recently transferred his quarters five miles outside the city, which he says now lies in ruins.

Fire is causing added horrors. The conflagration, which is spreading rapidly, first broke out in the market square, and it is travelling rapidly westward.

"It will probably finish the job," adds the wireless operator. President Hoover, on receiving news of the catastrophe, immediately gave orders to the American Red Cross to organise relief measures.

Flaming Buildings.

Over four hundred have been killed in the earthquake disaster at Managua according to an estimate by the Tropical Radio Station at Miami, while at least thirty-five were incinerated in the collapse of flaming buildings in the centre of the town.

Members of the National Guard, who were hastily organised and rallied wonderfully to check the panic, failed in their efforts to check the path of the flames, all attempts being frustrated by the exhaustion of stocks of dynamite, which were being employed to blow up buildings in the path and to eliminate natural bridges for the flames.

New York, Mar. 31.
According to the latest, advice from quake-stricken Managua, the death-roll is in excess of a thousand, while it is estimated that several thousands have been injured.

The injured and dead are reported to include a number of American women and children, the relatives



Map of Nicaragua showing the location of Managua and surrounding areas.

of business and Army men in Nicaragua.

The British and American Legations have been burned to the ground.

All the Government offices have been wrecked, and the banks and shops and offices which were not destroyed by the quake have since been burned down.

U.S. Navy's Relief Effort.

Later.
The Navy Department has ordered four naval vessels to proceed at once to Nicaraguan waters, including an aircraft-carrier.

Rear-Admiral Smith is leaving Balboa to-night for Nicaragua, aboard his flagship, the U. S. S. Rochester. The warship will head at full speed for Corinto, the port of Managua, where it is expected to arrive on Friday.

Planes With Doctors.

Two naval transport planes have been ordered to take off immediately from Balboa for Managua, carrying doctors and medical stores.

The giant aircraft-carrier, the U. S. S. Lexington, is already going at full speed from Guantanamo in Cuba to Bluefields, on the east coast of Nicaragua, from which further planes will be despatched to Managua with medical assistance.

Successing the Victims.

Later.
The moans of the injured, plumed under the debris, filled the air as United States marine patrols scrambled over the smouldering ruins of Managua to succour them.

While fire raged through the central business district, volunteers raced ahead of the flames, removing the injured, heedless of the risks from falling walls.

In the only hospital standing, United States marine doctors and

H.K. Currency Mission.

Brief Interview on Arrival.

NO PLANS YET.

For the purpose of investigating the Hongkong currency problem, the Commission appointed by the Home Government reached the Colony this morning on the N.Y.K. steamer Wakana Maru. It comprises Mr. W. H. Clegg, First Governor of the South African Reserve Bank (chairman); Mr. P. H. Ezechiel, one of the Crown Agents for the Colonies; and Mr. C. L. M. Clauson of the Colonial Office (secretary).

Seen soon after arrival, Mr. Clegg informed a Telegraph representative that the Commission had as yet formed no plans as to the methods they would adopt to gather their information. That would be fully explained, and plans made after consulting the Hongkong Government, when also the terms of reference might be announced.

The Commission, said Mr. Clegg, had actually had little time to discuss the matter, as he joined, his colleagues in Singapore only a few days ago.

Mr. Clegg added that he had no idea how long the investigations would take, but it was almost certain that they would begin immediately. "The length of our stay here will depend on the arrangements to be made," he concluded.

The Commission was met on arrival by Mr. N. J. Smith, of the Colonial Secretariat, and is staying at the Peninsula Hotel. Mr. Smith will act as general liaison officer to the Commission, which spent this morning meeting Government officials.

BRITISH BUDGET DEFICIT.

BIGGEST RECORDED FOR FOUR YEARS.

London, Mar. 31.
The financial year 1930-31 has ended with a deficit of £23,275,000, instead of a surplus of £2,236,000 for which Mr. Philip Snowden budgeted in April of last year.

Revenue for the year totals £775,894,000, and expenditure £799,170,000.

This is the biggest adverse balance in the national accounts since the financial year 1926-27, when the deficit was £36,693,000.

The present deficit has already been met by borrowings, and part of the deficit is artificial, inasmuch as it is offset by an excess payment of £11,430,000 to the Sinking Fund.

The real deficiency therefore is £11,845,000.—*Reuter.*

QUICK DASH TO CAPETOWN.

MILLIONAIRE SPORTSMAN NOW AT ATHENS.

London, Mar. 31.
The millionaire sportsman, Lieutenant Commander Glen Kidston, with Lieutenant Cathcart Jones as Assistant Pilot, and Wireless Operator Johnson, left Netheravon, Wiltshire, this morning for Capetown, which he hopes to reach in six days.

The present record, established by the South African airman, Casparatus, is 8½ days.

Commander Kidston is proceeding via Athens, Cairo, Nairobi, Broken Hill, and thence to Capetown.—*British Wireless.*

Later.
Lieutenant Commander Kidston has arrived at Naples.—*Reuter.*

NEWSPAPER HOLIDAY.

London, Mar. 31.
No newspapers are being published in England on Good Friday.—*Reuter.*

nurses treated hundreds who were seriously injured.

Above the tragic scene the new Presidential Palace, built on a hill overlooking the city, stands unharmed.—*Reuter's American Service.*



A new picture of Gandhi, 96-lb Congress leader.

PURNA SWARAJ DEFINED.

GANDHI'S FAMOUS 11 POINTS.

CONGRESS OVER.

Karachi, Mar. 31.
A storm of noisy enthusiasm resounded throughout Karachi to-night at about midnight, denoting the termination of the All-India Congress.

The final act of Congress, sitting in plenary session, was to adopt unanimously a resolution consisting of an elaboration of Gandhi's famous Eleven Points, forming the official Congress definition of "Purna Swaraj" (Independence).

Swaraj Programme.

The resolution demands an Indian native government endowed with various fundamental rights, and lays down a catalogue of detailed provisions, including:

- (a) the abolition of the salt duty;
- (b) control of exchange and currency policy;
- (c) control of military expenditure;
- (d) a reduction of national expenditure by at least a half;
- (e) the fixation of a minimum wage for industrial workers;
- (f) the protection of Indian cloth by the exclusion of foreign yarn;
- (g) total prohibition of liquor;
- (h) the limitation of the salaries of Civil Servants to £450 per annum.

Viceroy's Salary.
"Under Swaraj," said Mahatma Gandhi, in an address on the resolution, "even the Viceroy will not be paid more than five hundred rupees a month."

Gandhi added that the independence programme outlined in the resolution would represent the demands of delegates from the Congress Party at the resumed Round Table Conference.

The final session of Congress was protracted by the President's ruling that no decisions could be reached until the return of Hindus and Moslems who were temporarily absent from the session, praying.—*Reuter.*

Cawnpore Disturbance.

Cawnpore, Mar. 31.
The situation is steadily improving. The military pickets have already been withdrawn in certain areas but owing to the fear of outbreaks of disease and further trouble, the inhabitants of the affected areas are taking refuge elsewhere. The principal bazaar remains closed.—*Reuter's American Service.*

Nine Perish In Air Crash.

Noted Coach Among the Victims.

TERRIBLE END.

New York, Mar. 31.
Knut Rockne, the world-famous football coach of Notre Dame University, was killed today, in terrible circumstances, in an aeroplane crash, which occurred near Emporia, Kansas.

News of the tragedy has come as a great shock to American sporting circles, where Knute Rockne was esteemed and honoured for his wonderful successes with the Notre Dame football squad, which he coached to further triumphs this season, going through their campaign without losing a match and again capturing the Albert Russell Erskine Cup, emblematic of the American football championship.

The aeroplane in which Knute Rockne was killed was one of five Transatlantic passenger planes which were flying together from Kansas City to Los Angeles.

The plane crashed near Emporia, and immediately burst into flames. Rockne and eight others aboard the ill-fated craft, were burned to death.—*Reuter's American Service.*

CAUSE OF DISASTER TO THE R.101.

EXHAUSTIVE STUDY BY COURT OF ENQUIRY.

FUTURE OF AIRSHIP TRAVEL NOT TOUCHED UPON.

TEAR IN THE ENVELOPE.

EXPRESSING no opinion as to the future of the airship in aerial transport-development, the Court of Enquiry into the R.101 disaster, which took the lives of Britain's foremost airship experts, have issued an exhaustive Report into the cause of the accident, finding that it was mainly due to a tear in the envelope, which spread catastrophically and resulted in sudden loss of gas.

The theory that the airship broke in mid-air is rejected, and it is found that no fire occurred until the doomed craft struck the ground.

THE ESTABLISHED FACTS.

London, Mar. 31.
The Report of the Court of Enquiry into the disaster to the R.101, which was destroyed at Beauvais, all but eight of the 64 persons aboard perishing instantly in the flames, has been released for publication.

Sir John Simon was the President of the Court, his assistants being Lt. Col. Moore-Brabazon and Professor C. E. Inglis. Their conclusions are unanimous.

The Report, which is a most exhaustive document, offers no opinion on the future of airships, recognising that it is for others to determine whether experiments in this type of craft should be further pursued, and it is devoted entirely to the cause and cause of the specific event.

For this purpose, important features in the construction and the subsequent modifications and reconstruction of the vessel, together with the history of its former flights are carefully examined.

Established Facts.

Discussing the cause of disaster the Court started with a series of definitely ascertained facts, which the inquiry established as follows:

When the watch was changed at 2 a.m. there was no cause for immediate alarm known to those in charge of the navigation of the ship.

The vessel must have been at least 1,000 feet above the ground. The ground itself at this point is two to three hundred feet above sea level.

At 2 a.m. the elevator wheel would be handed over to another height coxswain who would not at once get the feel of the ship.

The weather was exceedingly bad. The ship in her trials had lost gas at an abnormal rate certainly, by the wearing of holes in the gasbags and perhaps through her valves when she rolled.

On the Indian journey she had rolled more than over before, and had failed to keep her gas as the Officer of Watch intended at an earlier period.

Course and Speed.

If she was becoming increasingly heavy this could be counteracted by a suitable lift of the elevator but in very bumpy weather it would be more difficult to detect the rate and the extent of the change. All her engines had been running satisfactorily at cruising speed for a considerable time right down to 2 a.m. This ought to give a speed through the air of a little over 60 knots.

The course of the vessel was not directly in the teeth of the wind and her speed over the ground might be expected to be 15 to 20 miles per hour.

In these circumstances, at about five minutes past two, her nose dropped and she continued in this position for about thirty seconds, descending rapidly.

First Bad Pitch.

Her pitch downwards was sufficiently severe to wake up a

man who was asleep in his bunk and to cause things to slide to the lower end of the smoke-room.

The height coxswain by putting his elevator up succeeded at length in bringing the ship again to about an even keel, but she remained in this position only for a few seconds.

At about the time when it appeared that she was not further responding to the up-elevator so as to recover height, the Officer of the Watch gave orders through the engine-room telegraph to reduce speed.

A moment or two later, the vessel got into a second steep dive which lasted for only a few seconds before she struck the earth. The impact was not severe.

Action Aborted.

The slowing down of the engines, combined with the warning given by the crew, is only consistent with the view having been taken that the vessel could recover.

Apart from reducing speed, the only other action that could be instantly taken to lighten the impact would be to drop such ballast as could be released from the control car. Releasing the ballast in the nose of the ship which could not be automatically controlled, was a further and slower operation, and yet orders were given to do this.

Explanations Rejected.

First among the explanations definitely discarded by the Court is any idea that the vessel from internal weakness broke up in the air.

Secondly, the explanation is set aside that there was any failure of the control gear.

Thirdly, the Court reaches the conclusion that the accident could not be explained solely by reference to the abnormal weather conditions, although the weather was a predisposing cause.

Fourthly, there is no reason to attribute the accident to any failure in the competence of the Officers of the crew, but in view of the recent change of watch, and of the prevailing weather, it may well have been impossible to bring the ship rapidly back to a horizontal position if her nose was forced down in the way suggested.

Control in Tempest.

Fifthly, a longitudinal gasbag movement is so limited in extent that, by itself, it is quite insufficient to account for a serious loss of control even in tempestuous conditions.

Experts who gave evidence believe the explanation of the disaster must be associated with a substantial loss of gas, and the report discusses whether the loss was general throughout the length of the ship, or chiefly concentrated in the fore part. Was the loss gradual or due to a sudden catastrophe which would empty the fore gasbags?

(Continued on Page 2)

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**MR. C. CHAMPKIN ADDRESSES
ROTARY CLUB.**

AMUSING TALK.

In spite of being given very short notice that he was required to speak, Mr. C. Champkin delivered an address that was not only instructive but also extremely amusing, at the weekly meeting of the Hongkong Rotary Club, which was held in Messrs. Lane Crawford's restaurant yesterday, under the Chairmanship of Sir William Hornell.

The Chairman welcomed the following from the round-the-world liner Franconia: Lieut. Col. W. Macdonald, I.P.G., Run-
nyede Rotary Club, Dr. Willard Flint, Pittsburgh, Rotarians W. Martin, M. Ruvane and C. Fox, all from Penang Rotary Club, Kansas, Rotarian J. A. Heist, Oak Park, Illinois, and Mr. G. S. Cottle, of New York, who attended the luncheon as Mr. Heist's guest.

Non-Rotarians welcomed were Mr. J. Walker, of the Chartered Bank, and Mr. W. F. Simmons, of the Hongkong Trading Co.

In addressing the gathering, Mr. Heist announced that he had brought a letter from Rotary International, Chicago, extending the best greetings to the Hongkong Club. After thanking them for their hospitality, he assured any of them of a welcome in America.

Rotarian Ruvane said that the Rotary idea did not seem so keen in the East as in America because Hongkong was the first time they had been able to meet a Rotary Club since leaving Bombay. He urged Rotarians to get the right spirit by attending meetings regularly and supporting their own Club.

Rotarian Macdonald said that there was some scepticism in Runnymede when the Rotary Club was formed there nearly two years ago, but the Club had never been in a stronger position than at the present time, and was doing a good deal of work.

"This Silver Business."
Addressing the gathering on "This Silver Business," Mr. Champkin said: About sixteen years ago, when I was manager of the Mercantile Bank here, a gentleman from Canada asked me if I would co-operate with him in founding in this Colony a Rotary Club. I told him that if it had anything to do with roundabouts or horses he could count on me, but that I had no interest in Folk Dancing. Those were the days when Rotary Clubs were in their infancy. I was transferred to Shanghai, and so far as I know the whole thing lapsed.

The gentleman from Canada has probably not returned to Canada and I do not doubt for one moment that he is still a gentleman. But when I look upon this assembly I feel a kind of unctuous satisfaction in the reflection that I stand, as it were, in loco parentis to all of you. If it were not so, I would never have dared to talk to you, at literally a few hours' notice, at the urgent request of my friend, Mr. Shields.

It is no less a bold venture on your part than a compliment to me that you should have asked me to address you on this silver business. I shall try, with some pretence at originality, to deal lightly on what is, at best, no very light affair, and owing to the limitations imposed upon me by the very brief notice you have given me, I shall necessarily have to deal with it in a very sketchy manner indeed.

Economists have had a good deal to say about the shortcomings of silver, but they have been tactfully silent as to its peculiar disability as a graceful topic of interest after an excellent tiffin. We are not, however, altogether wasting our time in examining some aspects of it, because we are now finding out that we have a great deal to learn about silver, almost as much in fact as we have latterly found it convenient, or expedient, to forget about gold.

Let me say that the last time I had the honour of addressing a Rotary Club I spoke on the Boy Scout Movement, a subject I was ill-qualified to expound, as what I know of it entirely concerned other people's scouting. Similarly, I had better make it clear at once that what I know about currency entirely concerns other people's hoards.

Still, the fact that one has no personal knowledge of a subject is no good reason for neglecting to be informative about it. Certainly it is that the average man lives somewhat vicariously, in the sense that his interests are very extensively other people's interests. It is, in fact, becoming increasingly difficult to mind one's own business.

The Average Man.

In so far as the interests of the average man are affected by metallic reserves they are entirely impersonal in origin. He seldom sees a gold piece, and what he sees of silver in China is a very imperfect view of what silver actually is. He scarcely ever gives a thought to those mental processes in others that act directly upon the bullion markets of the world, and react, very indirectly sometimes, but none the less markedly, upon his own most intimate affairs.

If he is so far removed from the average man as to own a house on the Peak he will be mildly interested to know that the discovery of a new goldfield in South Africa, announced in this morning's paper, will almost certainly enhance the value of all those "Bay Views," "Buona Vieta's" and other euphoniously named residences, that excite our admiration and envy in the course of our upland walks.

If he is contemplating retirement after long years of honest toil or exchange broking, he may, not unreasonably, be perturbed by the thought that he will have to cut down his wine bill in his old age if Ah Sin, of Shanghai, decides, for some incomprehensible reason, to buy gold bars on the Klukiang Road Exchange.

Whatever effect this association of ideas may have upon his mind, he is not likely to derive any consolation from the fact that Ah Sin has no use at all for the gold he buys, and has no intention whatsoever of paying for it. Nor will he be deeply moved to learn that by a very fortuitous circumstance the seller has no gold to dispose of, and would be vastly amused if he were called upon to deliver it. A transaction, however, that predicated any other state of affairs would be regarded in Klukiang Road as a slightly improper joke.

These considerations, of course, are rather apt to perplex the worthy citizen who thinks conventionally, and who, very properly, though unprofitably, draws a distinction between the actual buying of gold and the theoretical selling of silver.

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Perhaps we may better put it in this way, that the comparative higher ethics of bullion demand this distinction, whereas the superlative Shang-hai ethics do not. It is all rather puzzling but there is no need for us to bother very much about gold at present. A considerate Colonial Office may give us cause to corrugate our brows over the subject rather sooner than we expect, so we may as well conserve our mental energy and let our views mature.

When we get to silver we are on surer ground. We know what we are talking about. We are dealing with something that we understand, because, for so long as we can remember, we have been on a silver basis, except for the times that we have been on a banknote basis. We know that the truth about silver is bar silver, just as we know that the real truth about it is sycee, and the really real truth about it is the tael, that every textbook on currency assures us is not

a coin but a Chinese ounce of silver. Except for the fact that it is not a Chinese ounce, that it is not a coin, and that nobody quite knows how much of it is silver, the description is accurate enough, but it calls for amplification.

The Tael.
You will understand that when I refer to the tael I mean the monetary tael that dominates the trade of China, and that, in turn, is overwhelmingly dependent upon.
(Continued on Page 12.)

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THEM
GROW
STURDY

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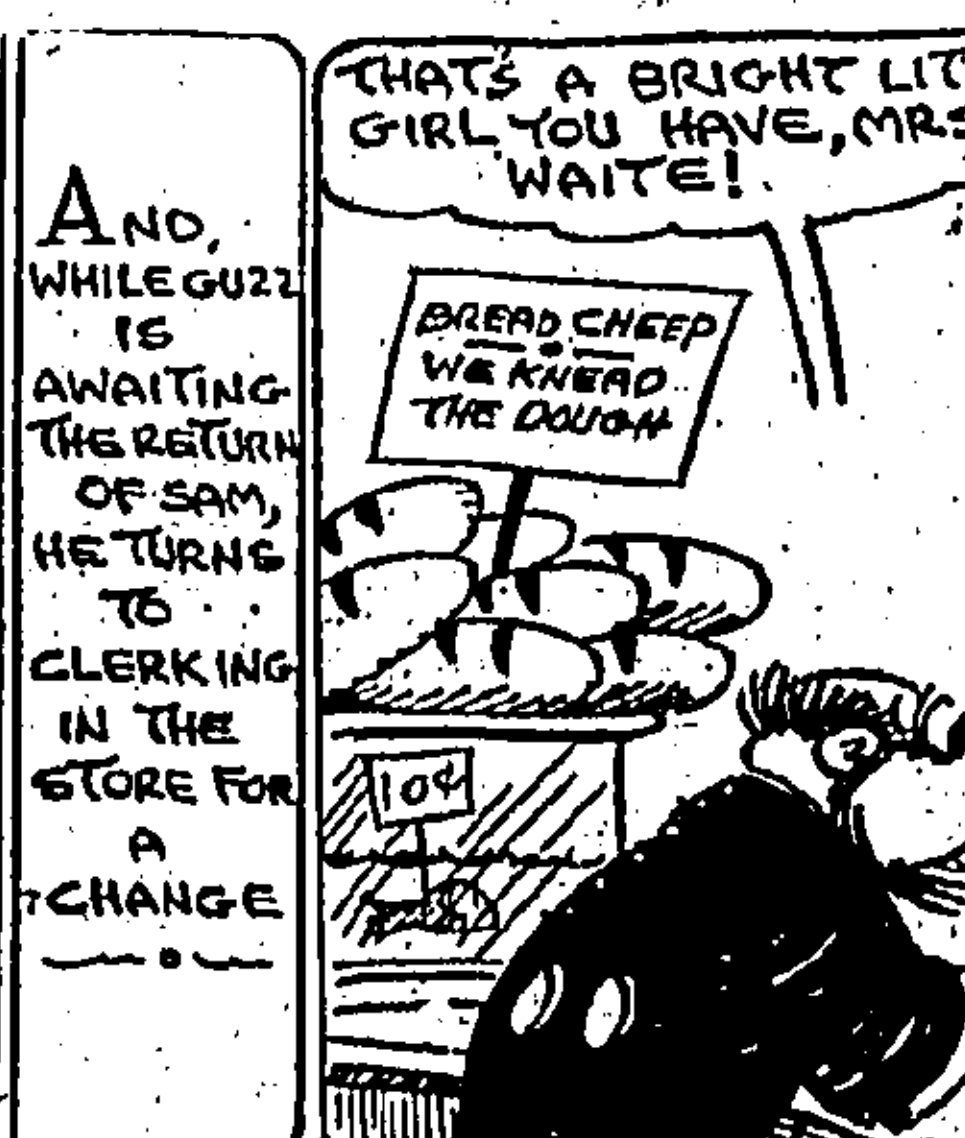
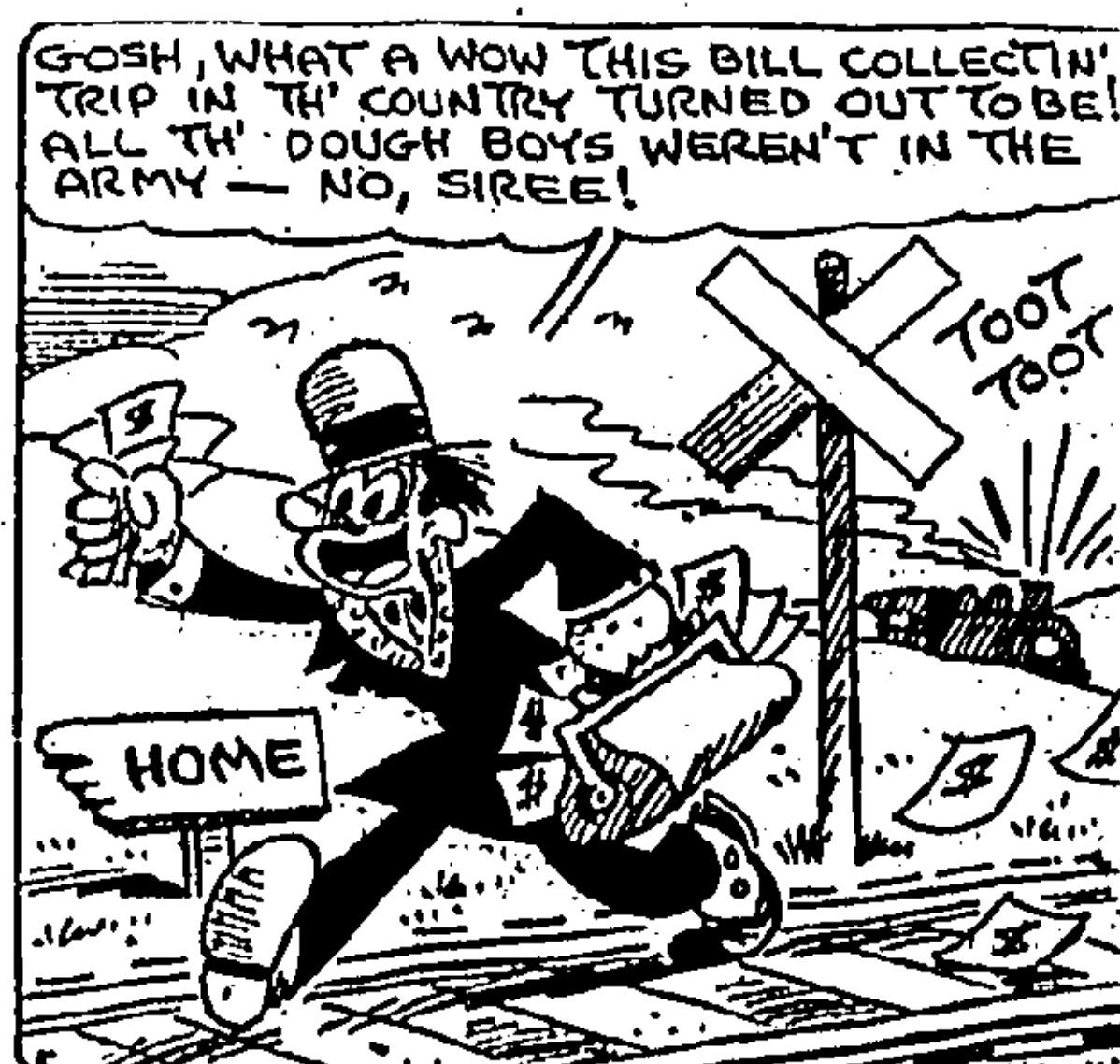




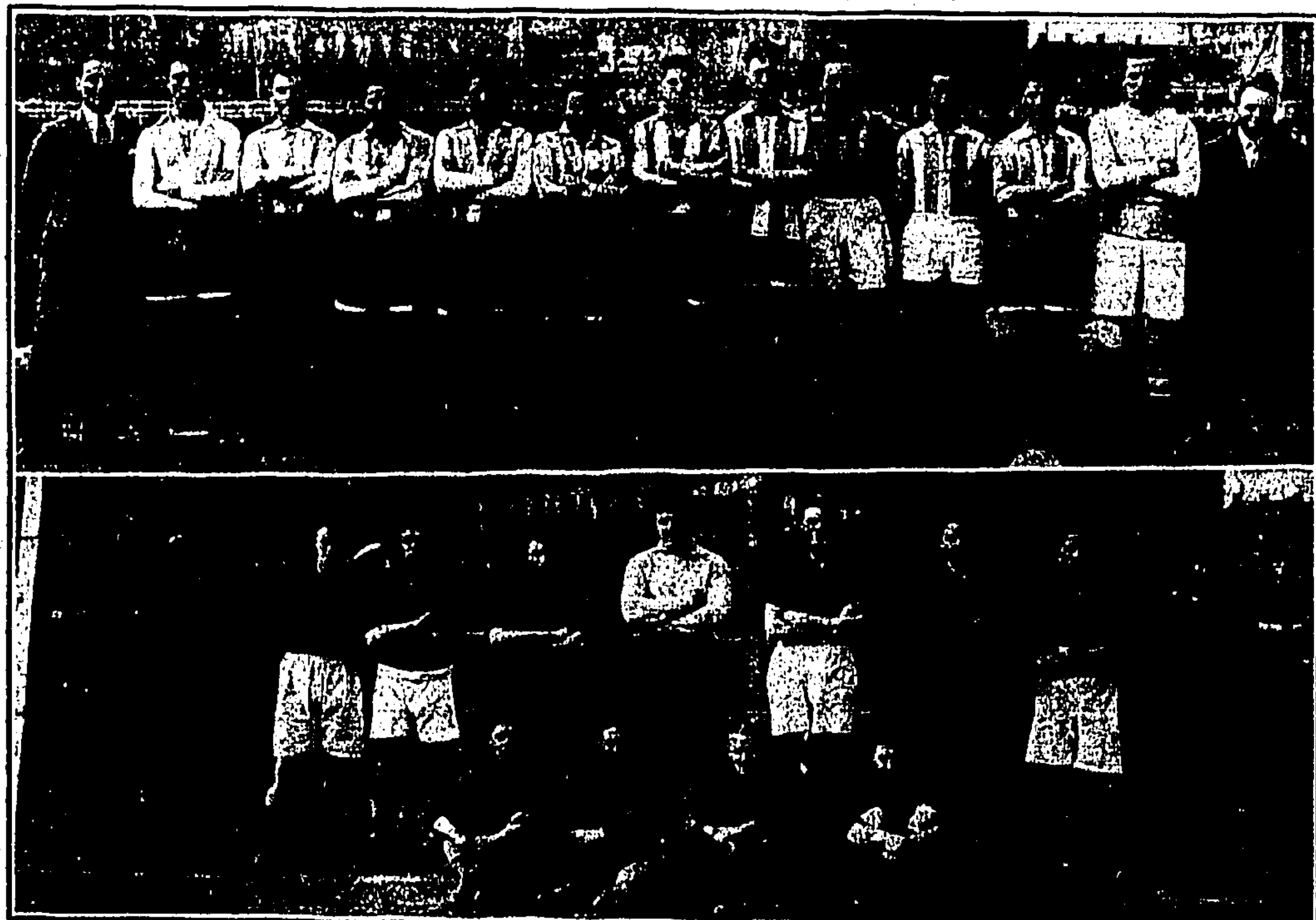
Photo taken after the wedding at St. Joseph's Church, Shanghai, a fortnight ago, when Miss Charlotte Eugenie Harran, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Harran, of Shanghai, was married to Mr. Fritz Johan Schlager.



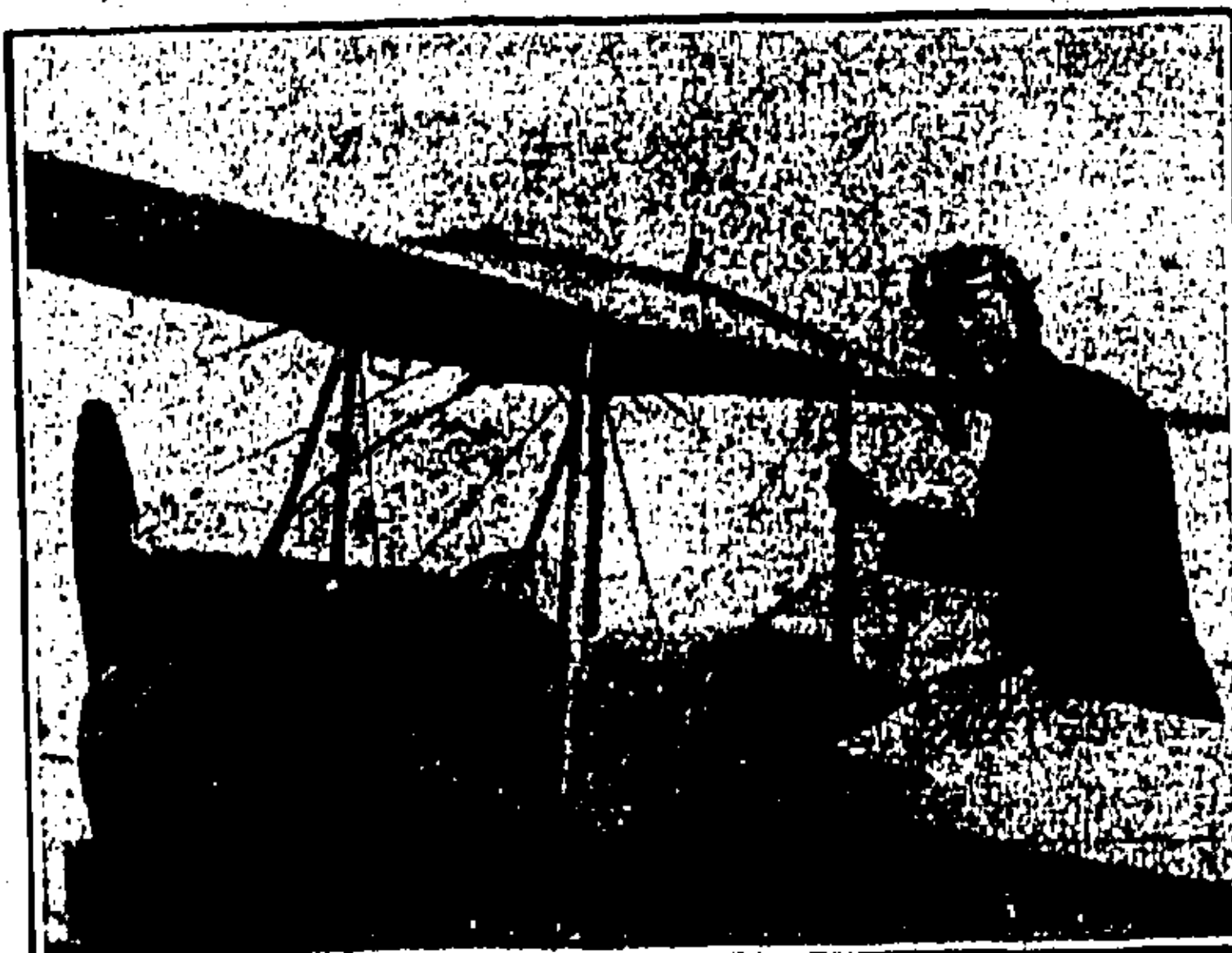
The British transport Neuralla reached Shanghai from India last week and docked at the Old Ningpo Wharf. She brought the Northumberland Fusiliers from Lahore, where they had been stationed for the past year. Picture shows some of the troops landing from the vessel preparatory to marching to the Kiaochow Road Camp.



Our photo shows the band of the Northumberland Fusiliers at the head of the battalion as they marched through the streets getting their first glimpses of Shanghai a week ago.



England (bottom photograph) defeated Palestine in the replay of their International Cup semi-final match played in Shanghai recently. The losers were weakened by the absence of two of their best men.



Two Chinese naval officers were killed on Saturday last week when a Moth biplane crashed near Hungjiao Aerodrome, Shanghai. The pilot, Lieut. C. G. Chen is seen climbing into the cockpit of the ill-fated machine.



Cadet C. Y. Ling, who met almost instant death when the aeroplane in which he was flying crashed near Hungjiao.



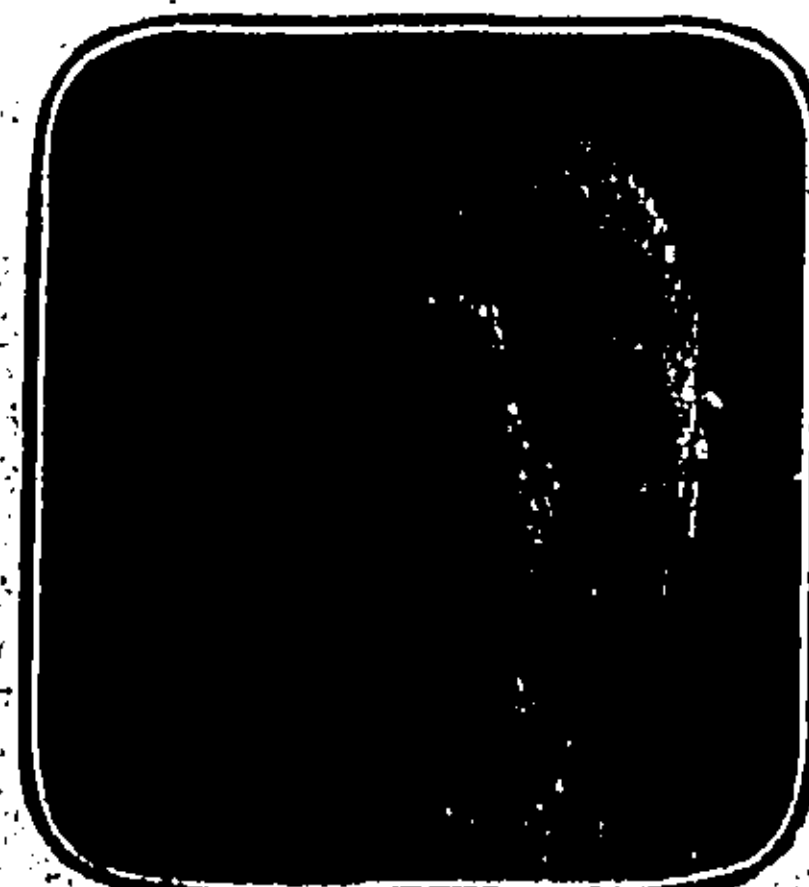
Another photo of Lieut. C. G. Chen, who was one of the most popular aviation instructors in the Chinese Navy.



The 2nd Bn. The Northumberland Fusiliers is commanded by Lt-Col. O. B. Foster, M.C., who is seen on the left with some of the officers.



Sir Arthur Salter, the Director of the Economic and Finance Section of the League of Nations, above, has completed his inquiries in China and is leaving for Geneva.



Dr. W. Vogel, of the German Society for Natural Ethnographical Sciences of East Asia.

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APARTMENTS TO LET.

AIRLIE HOTEL.—24-25, Nathan Road, Kowloon. Under European Management. Excellent Cuisine. Modern Apartments. Terms Moderate. Three minutes from ferry. Tel. 57357.

PREMISES TO LET.

TO LET.—Six roomed European flat with two bathrooms and servants quarters. 41, Kennedy Road, Thornhill Acreated Water, Factory, 2, Tin Lok Lane. Phone 20547.

TO LET.—Ground Floor of No. 8A, Des Voeux Road Central, at present in the occupation of the Netherlands India Commercial Bank, available from 1st April, 1931. Apply to David Sassoon & Co. Ltd.

METALS

of all kinds especially for ship-building and engineering work. Complete stock. Best Terms, immediate delivery.

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Circulation.

New Advertisements.

A. S. WATSON & CO. LIMITED.

NOTICE.

ON FRIDAY, the 3rd April, and EASTER MONDAY, the 6th April, All Departments will be CLOSED on these days.

The Hongkong Dispensary, Dispensing Department, will be open for dispensing prescriptions from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.

ON SATURDAY, the 4th April, all departments will open as usual. Hongkong, 1st April, 1931.

CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN & MORTGAGE CO., LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that DIVIDEND WARRANTS will be available on APRIL 8th, 1931, and may be obtained on application by shareholders in person or in writing at the Registered Offices of the Company, 178, Connaught Road, West.

By Order of the Board.

D. L. KING, Secretary.

Hongkong, 1st April, 1931.

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that the interest of Mr. Noel Victor Amor Croucher in our firm ceased as from the 31st day of March, 1931.

BENJAMIN & POTTS.

Dated the 1st day of April, 1931.

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that we have to-day admitted Mr. Shi Yu Man as a partner in our firm.

BENJAMIN & POTTS.

Dated the 1st day of April, 1931.

NOTICE.

I hereby give notice that I have retired from the firm of Messrs. Benjamin & Potts as from the 31st day of March, 1931, and have opened offices at Exchange Building where I am carrying on business as a Stock and Share Broker as from the date thereof under the style or firm name of "Croucher & Co."

N. V. A. CROUCHER.

Dated the 1st day of April, 1931.

NOTICE.

VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB.

The Annual General Meeting of members will be held on WEDNESDAY, the 8th APRIL, 1931, at 6 o'clock instead of 9th April, 1931, as previously notified.

JAMES STEWART.

Hon. Secretary.

NOTICE.

WE have to-day admitted Mr. WILLIAM ARTHUR CORNELL of Victoria, Hongkong, Architect, as a Partner in the Hongkong Branch of our business.

PAIMER & TURNER.

Hongkong, 1st April, 1931.

NEDERLANDSCH INDISCHE HANDELSBANK N.V.

(Netherlands India Commercial Bank)
Established 1863 at Amsterdam
Hongkong Agency.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that as from 7th April next, this Bank will occupy New Premises at 5, Des Voeux Road, Central. (Opposite present Office).

C. J. ENDERT,

Manager.

Hongkong, 30th March, 1931.

NOTICE.

WE have this day admitted MR. MARCUS THEODORE JOHNSON and MR. HARRIE VAUGHAN WILKINSON, Partners of our firm at Hongkong and Shanghai.

MACKINNON MACKENZIE & CO.

Hongkong, 1st April, 1931.

CREDIT FONCIER D'EXTREME-ORIENT.

Mortgage Bank & Estate Agents.

"PEAK MANSIONS"

Prince Edward Road,

Kowloon.

Detached and Semi-detached villas. Modern construction with garage.

"Cambay Buildings"

Plots with modern conveniences.

G. R.

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the Sale by Public Auction to be held on Tuesday, the 7th day of April, 1931, at 3 p.m., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor of one Lot of Crown Land at Mong Kok Tsui, in the Colony of Hongkong for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Sale	Registry No.	Locality	Boundary Measurements	Contents in sq. feet	Annual Rental	Upset Price
1	No. 2450	Kowloon Island	N. 1/2 Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000	18,110	\$39	\$32,218

G. R.

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the Sale by Public Auction to be held on Tuesday, the 7th day of April, 1931, at 3 p.m., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor of one Lot of Crown Land at Mong Kok Tsui, in the Colony of Hongkong for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No.	Row/Colon Inland Le' No 2451.	At junction of Fz and Ruiz Street.	Locality.	Boundary Measurements				Contents in sq. feet.	Annual Rental
				N.	B.	R.	W		
				feet	feet	feet	feet		
				As per plan.					
								About 18,040	
									\$332

WHITEAWAYS

EASTER EGGS

ENAMELLED CARDBOARD
EASTER EGGS.Nicely painted and decorated,
in different Colours and designs,
all sizes.

40 cts. to \$1.75

PUT YOUR EASTER GIFT
IN AN
EASTER EGG.

CALL AND INSPECT OUR EASTER DISPLAYS.

Whiteaway, Laidlaw & Co., Ltd.



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Short & Long Wave Radio Receiving Sets.

From 13 metres to 1700 metres.

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N. S. MOSES & CO., LTD.

17 Queen's Road Central.

THE BOOKSHELF.

THE LATEST NOVELS FOR
LIGHT READING.

A batch of new novels from Ward, Lock and Co., the well-known London publishers, claim our attention. They comprise the latest additions to the Colonial Library series and will be found well up to the standard we have come to expect from this house, which maintains its connexion with some of the most popular writers.

Ottwell Binn in "The Flaming Crescent" gives us a thrilling novel of unusual interest. It opens in the desert, but we are taken to Paris and Devonshire before the story ends. There is mystery and romance in this book, which must be classed as one of the author's best efforts.

"Red Desert," by Harry Edmunds, is a fine adventure story. It is a pre-war book in which a British naval officer and the daughter of the commander of a French post in Arabia become caught in the widespread net of German intrigue. Powerfully written, it holds the reader's interest to the last line.

Ellie A. Rowlands has done some of her best work in "The Posing King," which is the story of an unrelenting search for a stolen ring. There is an unusual development when the real thief is put out of danger without the ends of justice being violated.

Ben Bolt can always be relied on to give us a really good story, and he lives well up to his reputation in "The Forest Ranger," which is the story of an English scout with the Iroquois Indians in Canada during the fight for power between the French and the English. An extremely well-written novel, full of thrilling but quite feasible situations.

Another Canadian story is "The Lean Years," from the pen of Harold Bindloss, also noted for his exciting tales. The leading character is a young Englishman who forty years ago staked his all on a crop of wheat and won through despite untold handicaps. This is an intensely gripping tale, and apart from the story it contains some most interesting sidelights on Canadian development.

Paul Trent represented in "Brotherly Love," a romantic story of twin brothers who loved the same girl, who was the ward of one of them. In the course of events, the guardian dies and revelations follow regarding the gambling of his ward's money. A thrilling novel, which is not easily laid aside when once taken up.

"Denise the Daughter," by Katharine Tynan, is a mystery story written with that sympathetic touch which we have come to associate with her work. Readers who like her type of novel will greatly appreciate this.

"In 'A Way of Escape,' L. G. Moberly raises the question whether an unhappy marriage is rendered binding when separation and other circumstances rob it of its significance. The hero of the story is a brilliant doctor who is believed to have lost his life in a fire but in reality escapes death and goes his own way. There is a dual romance in this most interesting novel.

Margaret Turnbull has done an admirable piece of work in "A Monkey in Silk," which is based on the old Spanish proverb that "a monkey in silk is still a monkey." It deals with a young man who is transferred from a humble home to the palatial residence of his grandfather, and is an interesting study of his reactions to his new life. Needless to say, there is a pretty romance introduced and maintained to the end.

E. Charles Vivian can always be depended upon for a really good thriller, and "Unwashed Gold" is one of his most successful. It concerns the tracking down of the murderer of a girl, but it is more than a story of crime. A mysterious woman figures largely, and the climax is well kept.

William Le Queux needs no introduction. He is a master of mystery thrillers. His latest effort is "The Factotum" and five

CINEMA NOTES.

"SAY IT WITH SONGS" COMING.

Al Johnson, the world's greatest entertainer, comes to the Queen's Theatre on Sunday, in Warner Bros. latest all-talking, all-singing picture, "Say It With Songs."

"Say It With Songs" is a personality-plus picture and packing personality into pictures is Al Johnson's particular gift. Call it fervour, magnetism, luck, wit—what you will—this strange ability to electrify everybody everywhere belongs to just one person—Johnson!

There is probably more of Johnson in "Say It With Songs" than in either of his other talks. In some incredible way he dominates every one he touches while a picture is in progress of production and the talking-catches all the brilliant high lights, and tender by-lights of his remarkable voice and presence.

While the early scenes of "Say It With Songs" were being recorded, the same difficulties that have beset the early scenes of "The Jazz Singer" and "The Singing Fool," appeared.

The crew and cast became so enthralled during Johnson's first song that business practically stopped.

"It always takes a little time for us to get used to working while Al sings," Director Lloyd Bacon explained to a bystander.

"I'll never get used to it," a camera man remarked, "but I hope I will know enough, not altogether to forget what I am doing, when the same scene is shot again."

Gloria Swanson in "What a Widow"

The phenomenal reception accorded the sheet music, phonograph record and radio presentations of the song "Love, Thy Magic Spell Is Everywhere," introduced by Gloria Swanson in her last picture, "The Rescued," would seem to clearly indicate that fans might do well to jot down the titles of the three songs she offers in her new United Artists talking and singing comedy, "What a Widow," which comes to the Star Theatre on Saturday.

They are: "Love Is Like a Song," "Say, Ohi, Cherie" and "You're The One."

The three numbers were written by Vincent Youmans, the highly successful Broadway librettist who has been responsible for such melodic successes as "Hallelujah," "Tea for Two," "Sometimes I'm Happy," "More Than You Know," "The One Girl" and countless others heard in such shows as "No, No, Nanette," "Hit the Deck," "Green Day," "Wildflower" and "Pebbles."

"What a Widow," directed by Allan Dwan, marks Youmans' debut as a direct contributor of songs to the talking screen.

Ronald Colman in "Raffles." Ronald Colman reverts back to the pleasures of his childhood in "Raffles," his newest talking picture which is to be shown at the World Theatre on Saturday.

As the famous "Amateur Cracksman" in his unorthodox, which scored sensational runs on the stage here and abroad, Mr. Colman engages a two of his favourite sports. And Producer Samuel Goldwyn has to pay him for it.

Nothing and cricket are the sports concerned in "Raffles" is the first picture to show a big league cricket game in full swing for an extended sequence.

(Continued on Next Column.)

other short stories. Each is complete in itself, but there is also a link between them all. Some most ingenious situations are created, and this book can be thoroughly commended as ideal for odd moments of leisure. The difficulty will be, however, to refrain from passing from one thrilling episode to another.

"Leatherstocking" is the title of a gripping story by Carlton Dawe. It concerns a retired Colonel formerly in the secret service who assists Scotland Yard in discovering the whereabouts of a missing millionaire. How a mysterious Arab engaged in international conspiracies is overcome makes a tale of absorbing interest, exciting to the very last page.

Joseph Hocking seems to go on writings without ever running dry of ideas or themes. "The Secret of Trecebell," his latest novel, is set in Cornwall, which he knows and loves so well. It concerns a young author who becomes involved in a mystery, and it is a problem and a romance in one. Written in the author's happiest style, it will make a wide appeal to all lovers of his books.

SUGAR MARKET.

THE LATEST CABLED
QUOTATIONS.

The following cable at the close of the sugar market yesterday has been received by Messrs. Pennefather and Co.

London Terminals.

March 1932 7/3 down 1/4d.
May 1931 6/4 1/2 down 1/4d.
August 1931 6/7 1/2 down 1/4d.
December 1931 6/11 1/2 down 1/4d.

New York Terminals.

March 1932 1.64 up 1 pt.
May 1931 1.32 up 1 pt.
July 1931 1.40 up 1 pt.
September 1931 1.48 up 2 pts.
December 1931 1.56 up 1 pt.

Sourabaya (31/3/31).—Trust Mills sold further 3,000 tons (old crop) Brown 7.25.

Mail has been received at the American Consulate General for the following persons: W. O. Arnold, L. Bruce, W. W. Cadbury, P. Dry, T. F. Haskell, Mrs. S. E. Johnson, D. Kanley, G. H. Koster, I. A. Lane, G. S. McPherson, A. M. Martin, I. C. Moller, C. B. Ollivarius, D. E. Palmer, O. Sika, Mrs. S. E. Stauffer, L. G. Tuckerman, Wardley, H. H. Winburg, S. A. Zweibel.

Neither the two cricket coaches that Producer Samuel Goldwyn brought from England, nor the twenty odd experienced players that he gathered together in the picture colony to give the sequence authenticity, were of assistance to Ronald Colman. He didn't need any.

During his boyhood in England, Colman was a member of the Hadley College Team, of Littlehampton, a Junior championship combination that was well known in public school cricket. Later, he played in the International League on the team that represented the London Scottish.

Naturally he welcomed the opportunity "Raffles" gave him of renewing his hand at the famous game.

"Alf's Button" at the Central. "Alf's Button" a British "talkie" opened at the Central Theatre yesterday to full houses.

The story of Aladdin's wonderful lamp, with the attendant slave who gratified Aladdin's every wish, has always fascinated the reader. So that when W. A. Darling-ton caused the lamp to be melted down into a soldier's button, and fastened that button to the tunic of Private Alf Higgins, who every time he cleaned his buttons brought up Aladdin's Djinn, he was writing a story that fascinated and intrigued millions.

And now this best seller, after having been buttoned to the tunic of Private Higgins, has been made into a hilarious talkie, with Tubby Edlin in the role that he played for months in London and the provinces.

The public always loves to laugh, and here is a talkie which is one big scream from start to finish. Alf's amazing, and often embarrassing, adventures are sheer delight. The story needs no recounting. It is known to everybody, but the talkie has been lavishly produced with gorgeous scenes of Oriental splendor and the services of a galaxy of popular stage and screen stars in the various roles.

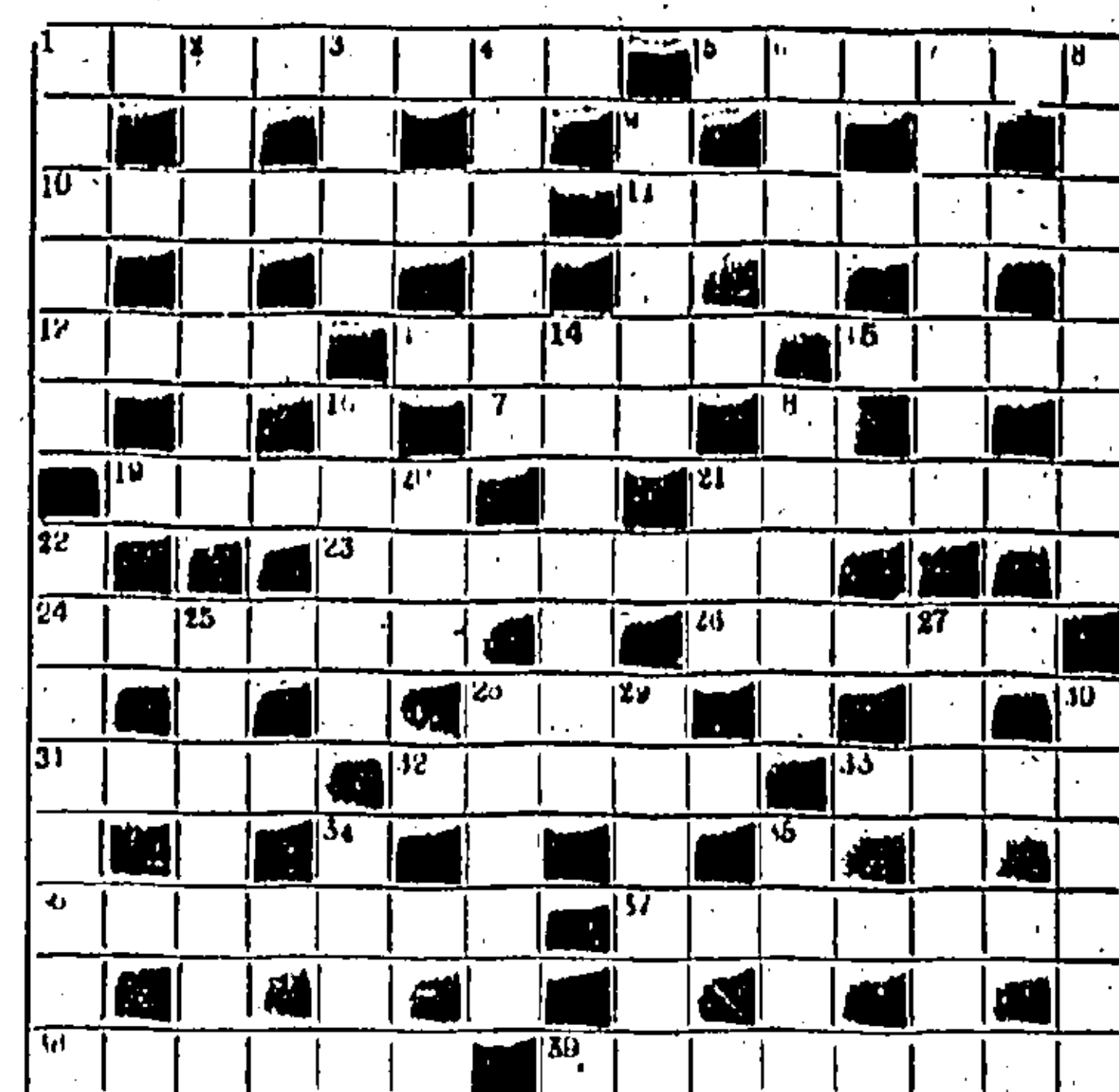
Prominent in a cast that also includes Cyril Maclaine, Peter Haddon, Bruce Winston, Gypsy Rhoun, Spencer Trevor, Annie Esmond and Stanley Cooke.

For the film's magnificent "Arabian Nights" sequences, Anton Dolin and Anna Ludmilla with a complete Corps de Ballet present Rimsky-Korsakov's ballet "Scheherazade," and a deliciously humorous burlesque is provided by Kervo and Knox. These scenes, embellished by feminine beauty "en masse" and placed in magnificent settings are appropriately presented in colour, and are accompanied throughout Louis Levy's symphony orchestra.

The Gold Diggers.

The kaleidoscope of life on the Great White Way of New York is extravagantly presented in "The Gold Diggers of Broadway," the film attraction in technicolour now showing at the Queen's Theatre. An abundance of beauty, chorus revues and musical numbers, his punctuated story, which is one dealing with the glamour and pitfalls that are supposed to ensnare the unwary in this great "Babylon" of the West. The eye is dazzled by the magnificent trapping of this picture, which may be regarded as the most elaborate presentation up to date of "song-and-dance" romances. There is a strong cast of stars, including Nancy Wel-ford, Conway Tearle, Winnie Lightner and many other well-known screen and stage personalities.

OUR BRITISH CROSSWORDS.



Across

- 1 He keeps strict discipline while cherishing art in his inmost being.
- 5 All in rapid motion (on a horse).
- 10 This one contrives, but give him nothing in place of his last vowel and he may, perhaps, leave you some money.
- 11 A language which appeals to most young people—and others being.
- 12 13 across is frequently this by a bird.
- 13 Surely this fish cannot be five and a half yards long?
- 15 This bird cannot gather its young under its wing when danger threatens.
- 17 John and his opposite number, Richard Roe, were once well known to litigants.
- 19 The meat is not as tender, by a long way, as it ought to be (hidden).
- 21 Not, perhaps, a strictly correct proceeding, but the angle, you see, has a great deal to do with it.
- 23 Answered.
- 24 Who said: "Convey, the wine call it. Steal for a fice for the phrase!"
- 25 These actions are legal.
- 26 The half of the eleven that goes in first, and comes out last.
- 31 Properly regarded, this number, Romanised, is but four and its reflection.
- 32 This berry is sometimes mistaken for a raspberry.
- 33 Give this girl ten and look for her on the head of an insect.
- 36 There is ample evidence that this means to crush.
- 37 When sufficiently moved, this helps to make a good report.
- 38 What river vegetation tears along?
- 39 Adornment, two, rented.

Down

- 1 Midding.
- 2 One of the most attractive spots in the Home-land is known as the Cornish.

Yesterday's Solution.

LAERTES FLATTER
GIVIN' COME
BLINKER REBUILT
WOMEN FILES ANON
MATTING TREADLE
APPLIES TERRIER
SUNSHINE SPIN
KITCHEN SPIN
NECKTIE PORTICO
ENSLAVE TAPSTER

Yesterday's Solution.

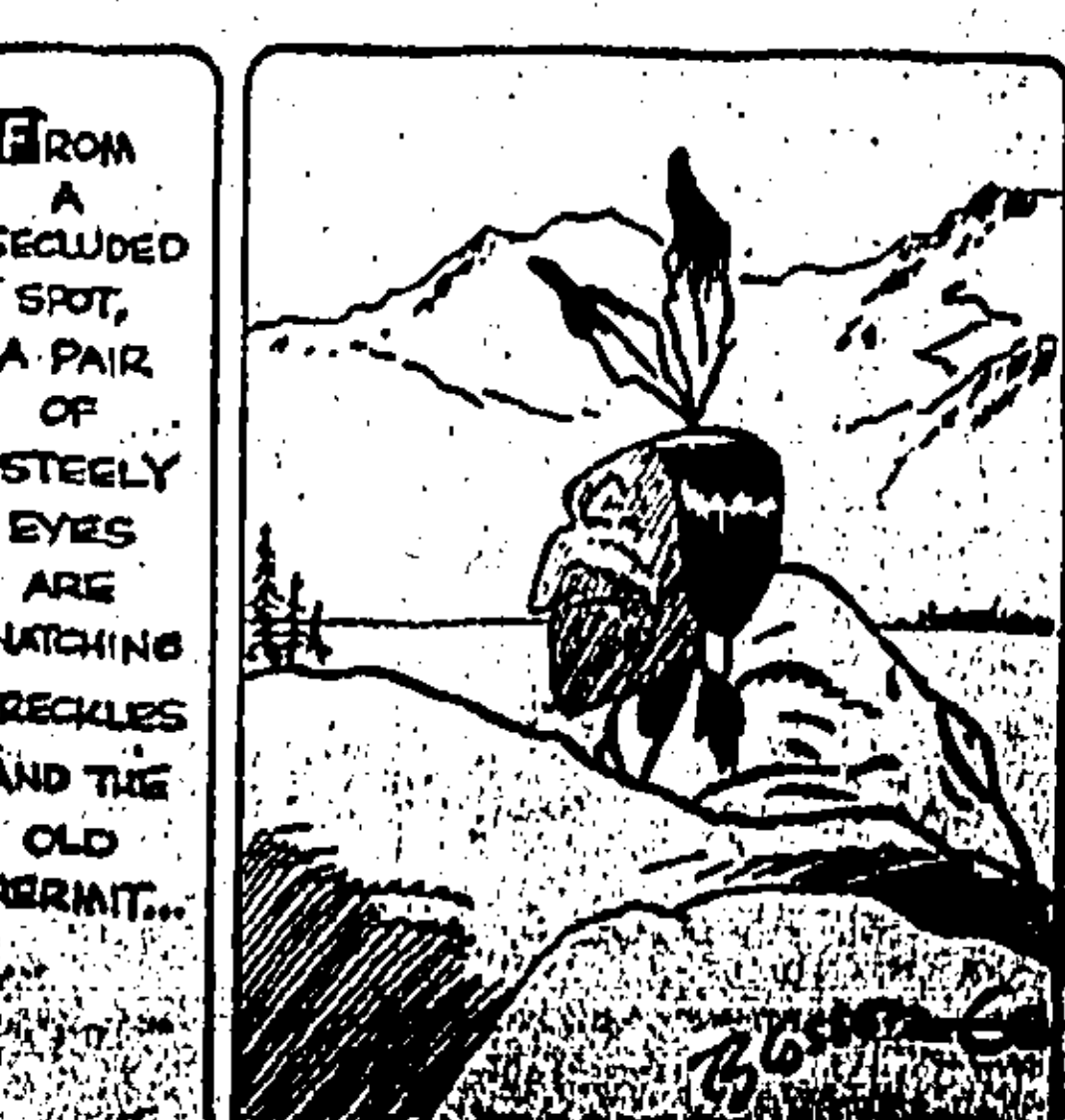
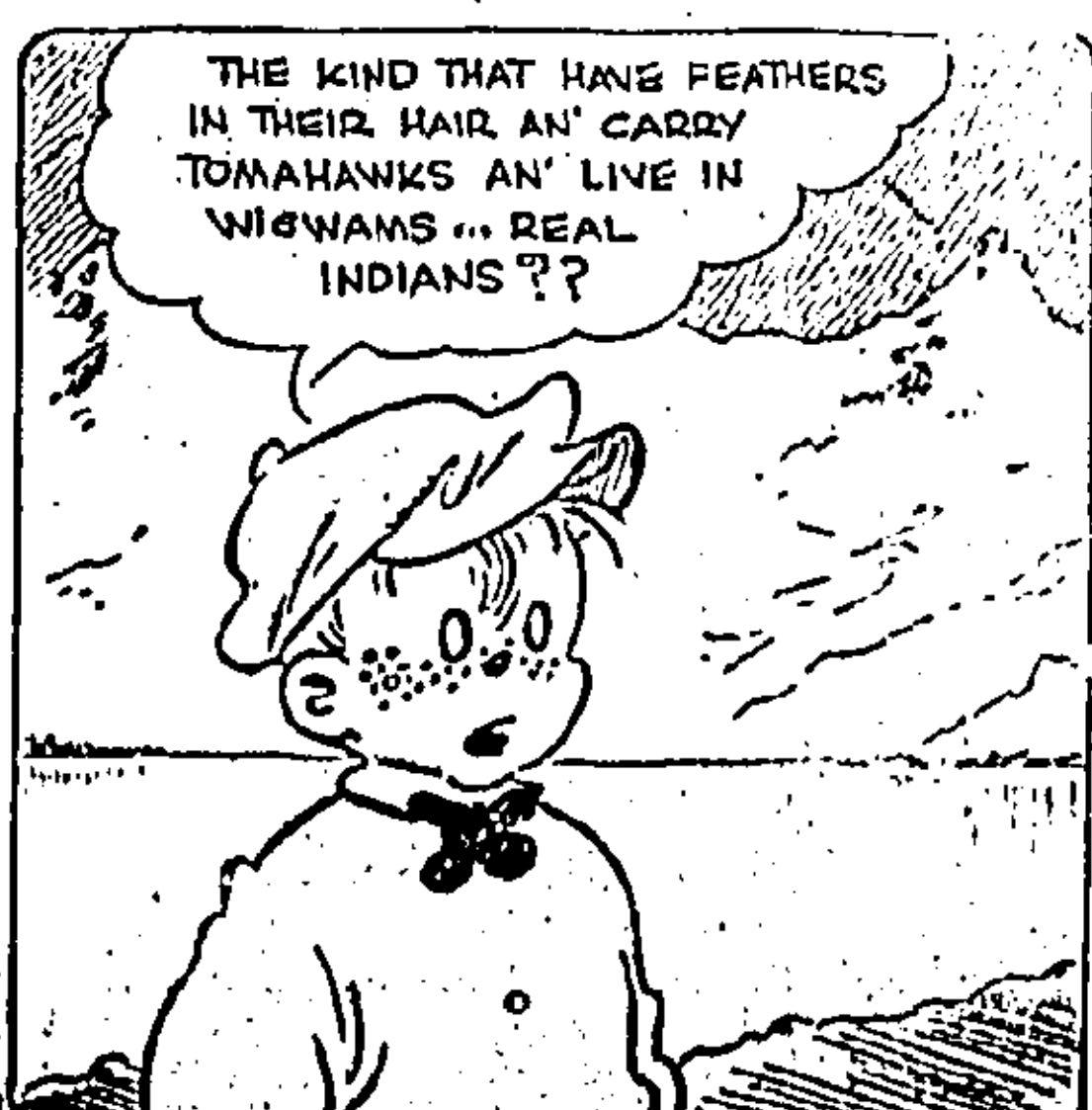
POLICE
C 15
PRICE \$ 500
The mixed up letters and numbers may be formed into the statement, "PRICE \$500," as shown in the diagram. The dollar mark is made by putting the 11, or two upright bars, over the "S."

SIX DAYS TO CAPE.

PROPOSED DASH IN HIGH
SPEED AEROPLANE.

London, Mar. 31.
An attempt to dash from England to the Cape in six days in a high speed aeroplane has been launched by the millionaire sportsman Lieutenant Commander Glen Kidston with the object of impressing the authorities that British airmails can be greatly expedited.—Reuter.

FRECKLES AND HIS FRIENDS



URODONAL

THE DEFINITE REMEDY FOR

RHEUMATISM

AND ALL

URIC ACID TROUBLES

SOLE AGENTS FOR HONGKONG
CANTON & MACAU

THE PHARMACY

Astoria Building, Tel. 20345.

An Eavesdropper

By Blosser

Pyeris

SPARKLING MINERAL WATER

A Delicious Table Water, healthful and refreshing.

Blends excellently with Wines and Spirits, especially Whisky.

IN PINTS AND SPLITS.

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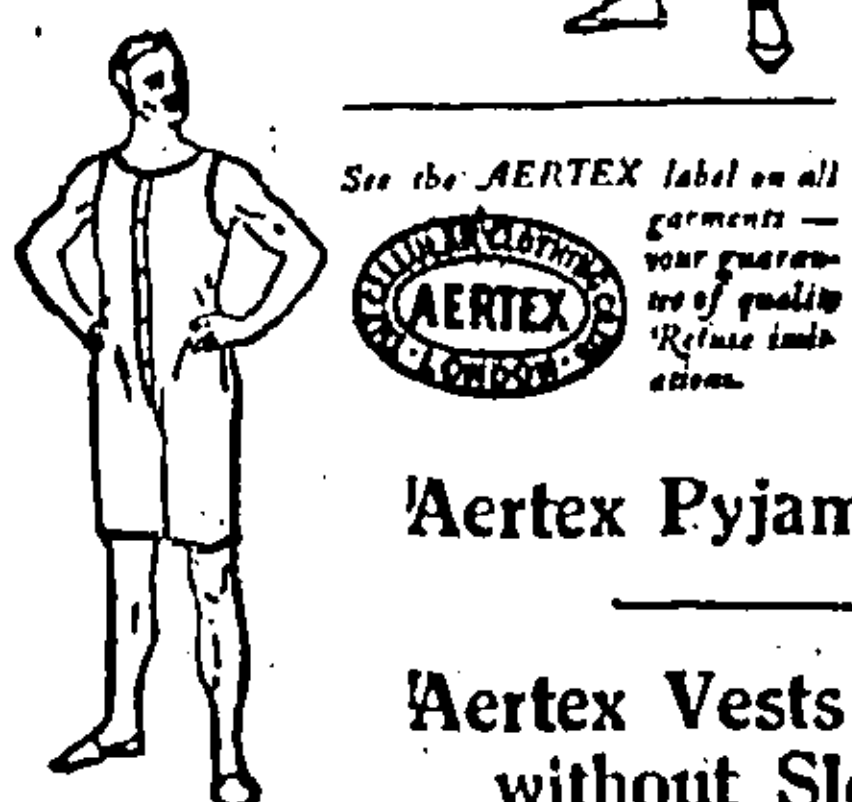
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PRICE \$2,800.

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PRICE \$1,740.

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PRICE \$1,700.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL GARAGE.

The Hongkong & Shanghai Hotels, Ltd. Incorporated in Hongkong. 25, Queen's Road C. and Stubbs Road.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 1931.

THE CURRENCY MISSION.

Mr. W. H. Clegg and his colleagues of the Currency Mission made their first acquaintance with Hongkong to-day and are taking up their difficult task almost immediately. Needless to say, they are exceedingly welcome. Whether or not their labours are destined to be of permanent value to the Colony is a matter which, obviously, it is much too early to discuss. Nor is it as important as the broad fact that we are to get, at least, and at last, an expert independent view on whether this Colony can safely adopt a gold standard; an opinion which will be free of the bias which, we are afraid, has contributed preponderantly to the 'stabilisation' controversy which has been raging on and off, for more than twelve months. And there is room for hopefulness. There is ground for the belief that a definite attempt is to be made to solve the Hongkong currency problem in such a way that the Colony will no longer be at the mercy of the fluctuations of the silver market. That, we believe, is the interpretation to be placed upon Mr. Ezechiel's speech at Kuala Lumpur, in which he stressed that the most desirable character of a currency must at all times be its stability. Unless silver itself is stabilised there can be no stability for Hongkong's currency. The only alternative is a gold basis. The change-over, everyone realises, offers serious difficulties, but these complications should not be allowed to interfere with the working out of a solution which will prevent a recurrence of the debacle of the past two years.

When the Mission settles down to the collection of data, the lists will be opened for a full tilt. The anti-stabilisationists will, doubtless, present a strong front, being far better organised than the opposition. Nevertheless, it is to be hoped that the advocates of a gold basis will not be so backward in voicing their opinions as they were when our own Currency Committee sat last year. Since then, fortunately, the issues have become clearer and fewer. The complications attached to the premium of paper currency have disappeared. The effect of the slump has been fully felt by every local interest, and many individuals and firms prepared to lead their support to the views of the Currency Committee in the summer of 1930 find reason to take the other side

at this juncture. Incidentally, we suppose that Mr. Clegg and his colleagues will be guided to some extent by the report of that Committee, and, though probably it has already been noted, we would draw attention to the curious attitude adopted regarding stabilisation. The Committee disapproves any steps until China abandons silver, the only justification, they admit, being a geographical link. It is then stated that stabilisation could not be effected at an arbitrary figure, but would have to be determined by the value of silver at the time the change is made. The price, it is added, would undoubtedly be much lower than the exchange value of our currency at the time the decision to stabilise was taken. Yet it is recommended that we wait for China to throw her enormous stocks of the white metal upon the market before we add our quota! We feel sure that the Currency Mission can suggest something more comforting than this.

In point of fact, for the purposes of the investigation on which the Mission is embarking, the Report of the Currency Committee, as distinct perhaps from the annexures, may be scrapped. It has already led Mr. Ezechiel astray. At Kuala Lumpur he referred to the note premium as still existing and remarked that the silver dollar is hardly ever seen. That should be enough to illustrate how rapidly the Report has become out of date. Nevertheless, recent contributions to local discussion have revealed that there is a section of opinion, embracing those who fear the loss of Hongkong of exchange business—which we prefer to call exchange gambling—who pin their banners to the conclusions of the Hongkong Committee. And this conveys a warning. Not for a moment must the Colony think of allowing these chiefly interested in exchange fluctuations to have "all the say" in representations to Mr. Clegg's Mission. Now that a real chance of getting something done has emerged, there must be no mistake about presenting fully the views of responsible gold standard advocates.

Unemployed and Employed.

There is one fact about the unemployed situation at Home which is apt to be overlooked, namely, that although there are now many more idle people than ever recorded before, the number in employment to-day in some parts of the United Kingdom is far more than for a great number of years. Indeed, if we take the whole of Great Britain, we shall find that until quite recently there were more people in jobs than at any time since 1923. Statistics issued by the Ministry of Labour disclose that the number of insured people in employment, with June 1923 taken as the 100-mark, was 106.1 for 1930, although it fell considerably by December last, but was still above the 1923 figure. Even so relatively recent as 1929, the figure was 110.5. In Wales and the Northern parts of England, the situation is admittedly bad, those in work being even less than in 1923, but if we look at the South of England, the position is infinitely better. Still taking 1923 at 100, we find that in June last the figure for London was 119, which is only a fraction below the 1929 return, this latter being the highest for the past eight years. In South-Eastern England, last year's mark was 129.9 and in the South-West it was 117.9, in both instances much better than any of the years quoted in the latest statistics. It is most encouraging to find that, in spite of the general trade depression, there are actually more workers in jobs in the South of England than for a very long period past. Unfortunately, the total of unemployed is now a record, but it is well also to bear in mind these other facts to which we have drawn attention. Wales and the North of England have been especially hit by the depression in the coal, iron and steel and the textile industries, but for which circumstance the position as a whole would have been infinitely better than it is.

DAY BY DAY

THE MAN WHO WINS IN AN ARGUMENT IS THE MAN WHO KEEPS HIS TEMPER.—A. W. Laird.

A Chinese case of typhoid was reported to the Medical Officer of Health yesterday.

Mr. W. A. Cornell has been admitted a partner in the Hongkong branch of Messrs. Palmer and Turner.

The Netherlands India Commercial Bank advertise that their office will be removed to No. 5 Des Voeux Road Central, as from April 7.

Messrs. Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Co. advertise that Messrs. M. T. Johnson and H. V. Wilkinson have been admitted partners of their firm at Hongkong and Shanghai.

The forthcoming wedding is announced of Jono Francisco Vieira Ribeiro, No. 2, Minden Avenue, Kowloon, to Miss Marie Luiza Remedios, No. 2, Gordon Road, Kowloon.

Through falling from a scaffold in front of 236, Queen's Road West, a Chinese painter received injuries to his head and hands and was removed to the Government Civil Hospital for treatment.

A fine of \$10 was imposed on the mistress of a trading junk at the Marine Court this morning before the Hon. Commr. G. F. Hole, R.N., for attempting to leave the harbour during prohibited hours.

Capt. Parry, of H.M.S. *Vindictive*, has been promoted Rear-Admiral and is at present on a trip to the Far East, with units for Hongkong and the Yangtze River.

The China Provident Loan and Mortgage Co., Ltd., advertise that dividend warrants will be available on April 8, and may be obtained on application at the registered office of the Company, 178 Connaught Road West.

For having had in his possession at No. 12, Prince Edward Road, 100 lbs. of Chinese tobacco on which the duty had not been paid, Leung Wai was fined \$1,100 or six months' imprisonment by Mr. Hamilton, at Kowloon this morning.

After having bitten F. Tamaka, a Japanese woman residing at 404, Hennessy Road, third floor, a brown chow dog belonging to Pui O, of 140, Lockwood Road, has been taken to Kennedy Town for observant. The lady was treated at the Mojima Hospital.

Chan Yat-cho, coxswain of the steam launch *Kwong Chee*, was fined \$10 at the Marine Court this morning by the Hon. Commr. G. F. Hole, R.N., for failing to provide a screen so as to prevent the port light of his launch from being seen across the bows whilst under way. Defendant admitted the charge.

Admitting a charge of having had possession of 6,911 no pin lottery tickets in Canton Road, a Chinese woman, Kwong Nei, was fined \$50 or one month's imprisonment by Mr. Hamilton, at the Kowloon Magistracy this morning. The accused said she had been given the tickets by a woman in the street to carry.

Making his third appearance before Mr. Hamilton, at the Kowloon Magistracy this morning, Leung Yau-chi was sentenced to six and twelve months' hard labour respectively on charges of larceny of articles of cutlery from the Kowloon British School Former Pupils' Association, King's Park, on March 21, and having returned from banishment before the expiry of his term. The Magistrate had previously adjourned the hearing of the case for committal, but decided to hear it summarily and accordingly accepted the accused's original plea of guilt. The sentences are to run concurrently.

STEPHEN LEACOCK on

HANDS ACROSS THE ETHER. BACK-SCRATCHING BY WIRELESS.

ISN'T it just wonderful the way the invention of wireless has connected up the farthest parts of the earth? I was just noticing the other day the reports in the newspapers of the messages sent back and forward between somebody who was travelling in a liner somewhere—I forgot his name—and the Mayor of some city or other. And the messages seemed to go back and forward as easily as if the two men had been side by side. I felt lost in wonder to think of the marvellousness and importance of it.

First of all, the traveller sent out by wireless: "Greetings from the Atlantic. I am sailing through a field of ice."

And the Mayor answered back: "Greetings from the Atlantic received. Please accept greetings from all here. I am sitting in my office at my desk."

Then back came the return message: "Accept cordial congratulations from the Atlantic on sitting in your office. All here glad to know that all there are sitting there. Am sailing slowly."

And in return to that came the instantaneous reply: "Cordial congratulations on sailing slowly. All here glad to know that you are there. Accept best wishes for being there..."

Then Another Chips In.

Hardly had this information been conveyed across the atmospheric wilderness when the traveller, it seems, was able to get into contact with the Mayor of another city and wireless to him:

"Accept greetings from the Atlantic to your city. We are moving at about 15 knots, warm sunshine."

Back flashed the message: "Greetings received. Please accept greetings from our city and congratulations on warm sunshine. We had a touch of rain last night."

But it seems that these messages, important though they were, were only a few samples of the tremendously vital world information being carried back and forward by radio.

That very night, it appears, the President of Mexico "got" the city council of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and sent out the vital words:

"Greetings from Mexico City. I am sitting in my chair."

And the answer came back by the very next ether wave:

"City Council, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, acknowledges greetings President Mexico. We are eating breakfast. Most of us are taking kippered herrings."

Fermenting Good Relations.

The newspapers of both places agreed that the interchange of these messages would do a tremendous lot in fermenting good relations between Saskatoon and Central America. As a matter of fact, the first message had hardly got through when the city clerk of Saskatoon received a wireless call from the President of Honduras, which said:

"Please send us a message, too. We have a machine of our own, nearly all paid for. Honduras sends cordial congratulations to Saskatoon on being in Saskatchewan."

The new international courtesy which governs these things prompted an immediate reply:

"City of Saskatoon and Province of Saskatchewan acknowledge cordial congratulations Republic of Honduras. We are having a hard winter."

The answer: "Congratulations on hard winter" got through within the same day.

I am told that there is no doubt that the interchange of this last set of messages will do a tremendous lot for trade between Saskatchewan and Honduras. The President has already got through a message: "If you want any log wood, tank, or first-class cordwood, let us have your order."

Not the Whole Story.

As a matter of fact, these messages of greeting that are reported every day or so in the current Press prove on inquiry to be only a very small part of the messages of the kind that are sent back and forward from one great world-centre to the other, conveying thoughts of absolutely vital importance for the welfare of the world.

Through the kindness of one of the operating companies, I am able to reproduce brief abstracts of one or two of these, thus:—

"From Habibullah Khan, Acting Khan of the Khannery of Kabul, Afghanistan, to Secretary of Junior League Convention of Lancashire. —Ameer Afghanistan and entire Army congratulate Junior League on election of Miss Rosie Bosobud as associate vice-president. All here join in cordial greeting to all girls in your league and any other. In placing orders muslim or native head work, don't forget our salesmen. We have had a warm winter."

To this message the League was able to send back a direct, unrelayed radiogram straight to the city of Kabul, City Hall office, top floor, Ameer's private room, where it was decoded and disseminated into Afghan in 4m. 22s.

"Junior League President, officials and members send greetings Habibullah Khan, or any Acting Khan, or Half Khan. Congratulations Afghanistan on Khan and Khan on Afghanistan. Convey congratulations Army. Don't forget Lancashire for cotton goods."

I am not just sure whether the next message is a genuine one. It was tucked away among a heap of them, and in appearance it looked like the others. Whether it is genuine or not, at any rate it represents the wide desire of congratulating everybody on everything that is making the fortune of the wireless apparatus.

"Sultan of Borneo congratulates William Jones, of Essex, on reported prize at county show for cabbage 2ft. in diameter. All here send greetings entire population Essex."

Sometimes—so the operators inform me—rather pathetic cases are found of people who would wish to get into wireless touch but have no correspondent. The operators receive messages such as "Arab Sheikh, Southern Sahara, with second wireless set formally belonging to Piffirm, would like to get into touch small Republic or Large business territory; good opportunity ivory or gin." Or this message, which lay near the other:—

"Sultan of Somaliland: Plain congratulations in any European language, except Irish; no extra charge for atmospheric reports."

Looking over messages of this sort the other day I couldn't help reflecting on what a pity it is that the world didn't have the wireless messages in the days of the great explorations and discoveries. How much more vivid the pages of our history would have been!

I suppose most readers are aware that there is a scientific legend to the effect that wireless was invented and actually used centuries ago by the great Italian scientist and painter, Leonardo da Vinci. Later on, so it is claimed, he deliberately broke the machine, and the secret of the process was lost and not again discovered till the present day.

If this story is so, it lends an air of truth and genuineness to a message which I found inscribed, along with its appropriate answer, on an ancient parchment. The documents, which were dated "October, 1492," had at least all the appearance of age. The message read:—

"Cordial greetings from Christopher Columbus to King Ferdinand and Isabella. Have just discovered Japan." And the answer:—"King and Queen both here at breakfast in Escorial Palace, second place of saint. Cordial greetings to everybody you discover. Your achievement greatest impetus onion trade."

And yet, after all, perhaps Leonardo da Vinci knew what he was doing when he broke the machine.



"Time out for a new first base! This truck's leaving."

LEGAL FINDING ON PIRACY.

ROBBERY MUST BE ESTABLISHED.

APPEAL COURT AGAINST THE CROWN.

DEFENCE SUCCESSFUL.

An important finding in law, that a conviction for piracy in Hongkong cannot be sustained unless robbery is established, was delivered by the Acting Chief Justice (Mr. Justice Wood) in the Court of Appeal this morning at the Supreme Court. The acting Puisne Judge, (Mr. Justice Lindell) read a short judgment in which he concurred with the finding of the Chief Justice.

The case concerned the Pedro Blanco affair early this year, when 12 Chinese were captured in two junks, after having been seen to chase and fire at a Hongkong-bound junk. At the Criminal Sessions the jury returned a unanimous verdict of guilty of piracy against all 12 men, but sentence was suspended pending the argument of the point of law reserved, as to whether robbery was necessary to support a conviction for piracy.

The case for the Crown was argued by the Attorney General (Hon. Mr. C. G. Alabaster K.C.), together with Mr. Somerset Fitzroy. Prisoners' case was conducted by Mr. Hin-Sing Lo, instructed by Mr. C. E. L. Grist, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist.

The Judgment.

In the course of his judgment which took 40 minutes to read, Mr. Justice Wood pointed out that in his argument on behalf of the Crown, the Attorney General had submitted that the decision on the question depended wholly upon the International Law. The piracy charged was piracy *Jure gentium* and, by International Law, was justiciable everywhere. A conviction for the crime could be recorded by a competent Court in any country.

In his Lordship's opinion, the argument that a jurisdiction, whether in England or in Hongkong, in respect of an extra-territorial occurrence, could be derived by a Court from International Law directly, without the interference of legislation, could not be sustained. Legislation said his Lordship, was necessary and the crime of piracy being extra-territorial, legislation which was to empower the Court to try the offence, must be legislation of the Imperial Parliament.

Court's Competence.

To hold any other view would lead to the conclusion that it might be possible for the Court to exercise alternatively views obtained from two authorities which might, in time, be found to be conflicting. It would, on that view, in certain circumstances, be conceivable that a Court might act legally in defiance of the limitations imposed upon it by its own constitution.

The competence of a Court was derived from its Sovereign. Judicial functions were a portion of Sovereignty. Unless it received the jurisdiction from the Sovereign, the Court was without power to act. An acquiescence by the Sovereign in a usurpation by the Court of any portion of the Sovereign's power would not amount to sufficient authority.

International Law.

Continuing, his Lordship said he was of opinion that International Law did not occupy, in the English legal system, the pre-eminent position which was claimed for it by the Crown in the present case, and, further, the contention of the Crown, in his Lordship's opinion, was founded upon a misconception of the constituent elements of International Law which, in this matter, gave no direction, but merely negated prohibition. Outside the elements of territorial jurisdiction, the rule of International Law, on which the Crown here relied, was permissive and not obligatory. It was procedure and not positive.

His Lordship recalled that he refused an application for the indictment to be quashed at the Criminal Sessions. That application, he said, was made on the ground that no robbery was disclosed. The matter was not argued very fully and he allowed the trial to proceed. He explained that his decision then was influenced by the idea that the Admiralty Offences (Colonial Act) 1849, 12 and 13 Vict. c. 96, on which the jurisdiction of the Court to adjudicate upon offences committed at sea depended, was, in its effect, parallel with the Statute of Henry 8th in England and, therefore, that as the latter Act authorised the trial both of misdemeanours and felonies, the Act of Henry 8th might be

LATEST LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.

COMMERCIAL EDUCATION ARRANGEMENTS.

For many years past, the British Chamber of Commerce, Shanghai, has been the local centre of the Commercial Education Department of the London Chamber of Commerce, and twice each year has conducted examinations in commercial subjects.

The Shanghai Chamber, feeling that the time has arrived when the scope of its activities along educational lines should be extended, has decided to conduct examinations in shorthand and typewriting. These examinations are meant to give the prospective business boy and girl over the age of 16 an opportunity of obtaining a certificate which should be of material assistance in securing a position in business offices.

The examinations, the first of which it is hoped will take place in May of this year, will be open to students of either sex and of any nationality. In shorthand the minimum speed will be eighty words per minute, advancing by twenty words per minute to a speed of 180, and over, should any candidate desire to sit for more advanced examinations. As these are commercial examinations, the test dictation will embrace phrases used in general mercantile business, in banking, law, shipping, insurance, etc.

In typewriting the candidate will have to copy work of varying difficulty including commercial and legal statements, statements of accounts and badly written and confused manuscript. There will be a speed test of ten minutes with a minimum speed of 50 words per minute. The fees will be \$10 for each subject or \$15 for the two.

The standard has been made high in order to attract the best type of candidate. The examinations are not intended for beginners. Beginners may sit for the London Chamber's junior examination on application to the local centre. The purpose of the examinations is to improve the standard of shorthand and typewriting.

Arrangements have been made with the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce for local candidates for these examinations to be examined here. Particulars may be obtained from the Secretary.

EUROPEANS CATCH PICKPOCKET.

COMMENDED BY MAGISTRATE THIS MORNING.

Messrs. B. Richardson and P. J. Solomon were commended by Mr. Williams, at the Central Police Court this morning, for effecting the arrest of two pickpockets who were sentenced to three months, and six months' hard labour respectively.

According to Detective Sergeant MacDonald, a hawker was walking in Connaught Road, at the junction of Pottinger Street, when he had his pocket picked by two men working in conjunction with one other. He managed to seize the hand of the man who had extracted his purse, which was passed on to the second, who started to run away. The victim informed Messrs. Richardson and Solomon, who gave chase and arrested the second culprit.

The first defendant was stated to have had one previous conviction, while the second had two. In sentencing the first man to three months' hard labour and the second to six, his Worship commended Messrs. Richardson and Solomon for their public spirit.

WEATHER REPORT.

The Royal Observatory reports that the depression has deepened and moved to the south of Tokyo. An anticyclone is central to the north of the Yangtze Valley. Fresh monsoon along the south coast of China and over the North China Sea.

correctly construed in the same sense.

Court's Jurisdiction.

After referring to the indictments concerning the *u.s.* Sunning and the *u.s.* Hatching pirates, and a consideration of the term of piracy, his Lordship said he regarded the jurisdiction of the local Court as something carved out of the jurisdiction of the Admiralty. It might be that the High Court of Admiralty, sitting to try a person accused of piracy, would be bound by the same definition to which the Common Law Courts in England had adhered. Wider definitions might have their uses where executive action by the Admiralty comes up for consideration.

His Lordship concluded by saying his answer to the point of law reserved was that robbery was necessary to support a conviction for piracy in the Court, and intimated that prisoners would be formally discharged this afternoon.

SPRING FESTIVAL SCHOOL.

HAPPY DISPLAY AT QUARRY BAY.

Childhood charms were given expression at the Quarry Bay School this morning, when the young pupils took part in the Spring Festival, which is always eagerly anticipated by parents and friends.

Memories and visions of old English village greens, with the lads and lassies attired in their smartest and daintiest, dancing to the merry strains of the Polka and the Spring Song around the May Pole, were recalled in the pleasing performance of these talented children, and the large gathering, which included Lady Peel, accompanied by Mr. G. P. de Martin (Director of Education), gave the youngsters an enthusiastic reception.

The programme opened with the entrance of the May Queen, characterised in regal style by pretty Gwendeth Waldron. She was preceded by the shepherd, village lads and lassies, who hilled her with the song "The Queen of May is crowned to-day."

Beethoven's "Song of May" was delightfully rendered, and afterwards the children demonstrated the May Pole dance, of which they gave a clever and dainty performance.

Three folk songs were sweetly sung, and the children were equally at home with the well-known

EXTRALITY DEADLOCK RUMOURS.

Denial in Anglo-Chinese Circles.

MERELY SUSPENDED.

Nanking, Apr. 1. Replying to enquiries regarding widespread reports that the Sino-British extrality negotiations have reached a deadlock, Sir Miles Lampson's staff states that the reports are untrue, adding that the conversations are merely being suspended over the Easter holidays.

Mr. G. T. Wang, the Foreign Minister, also denied that the negotiations had reached a deadlock. *—Reuters.*

Last week, in a statement to Press representatives, Dr. Wang Chung-hui, President of the Judicial Yuan, said the Government was determined to effect a complete settlement of the extrality question before May 6th. He added: "As to the proposal of gradual and regional abolition reported to have been made by certain Powers, the Government will under no circumstances agree to it. What we seek is complete and unconditional abolition."

country air "A Farmer's son so sweet," whilst their happy interpretation of "O no, John!" clearly showed their delight for this gay ballad.

Exceptionally well performed were the Finger Polka, the Friendly Nod and the Burgomaster dances, while the children's band displayed unusual talents in their treatment of Schubert and Beethoven, selecting as their numbers, Marche Militaire, Gavot in B Minor, and Moment Musical.

"Hark, Hark, the Lark" and "Now is the month of Maying" were two other chorus songs which were prettily sung, and finally W. G. Hancock ably led the singing of "May-Time," this bringing to a conclusion a delightful entertainment, which reflected the highest credit both on the pupils and their instructors.

Others present in addition to Lady Peel were Mrs. Walker, Miss Skinner (Belliss School), Mrs. G. P. de Martin, Mr. A. R. H. Phillips, Dr. S. W. Tso, and Mr. A. O. Brown.

EXCHANGE RATES.

	Friday.	Yesterday.
Paris.....	124.22 1/2	124.10 1/2
Geneva.....	25.25	25.25 1/2
Berlin.....	20.38 1/2	20.38 1/2
Oslo.....	18.16	18.16
Helsingfors.....	103 1/2	103 1/2
Buenos Aires.....	39 1/10	39 1/10
Athens.....	37 1/2	37 1/2
Shanghai.....	1/3 1/4	1/3 1/4
New York.....	4.85 20/32	4.85 20/32
Amsterdam.....	12.12	12.12
Stockholm.....	18.14	18.14
Vienna.....	34.50 1/2	34.50 1/2
Madrid.....	44.75	44.75
Bucharest.....	81 1/2	81 1/2
Montevideo.....	35 1/2	35 1/2
Hongkong.....	1/10 1/4	1/10 1/4
Brussels.....	34.92 1/2	34.92 1/2
Copenhagen.....	18.16 1/2	18.16 1/2
Milan.....	92.75 1/2	92.75 1/2
Prague.....	108.25	108.25
Lisbon.....	3.25 1/2	3.25 1/2
Bombay.....	1/5 27/32	1/5 27/32
Yokohama.....	2/0 13/32	2/0 13/32
Silver (spot).....	18 1/2	18 1/2
.. (forward) 12 1/16	18 1/2	18 1/2

—British Wireless.

CAUSE OF DISASTER TO THE R101.

(Continued from Page 1.)

gasbags immediately before the final dive? Or is the explanation a gradual loss spread over the whole ship before a considerable catastrophic loss?

Three Phases.

After examining the views of the experts on these points, the Court reaches the conclusion that there were three phases in the final movements of the R101.

"In the first, she drops her nose and descends at a noticeable steep angle for half a minute before, by the use of the up-elevator she is brought back to an approximately horizontal position.

The second phase then begins, and continues for a short time, during which in spite of her utmost efforts, she does not succeed in getting her nose appreciably up, but continues horizontal, until she suddenly passes into the third phase when she at once again strikes ground almost at once at an angle of a least fifteen degrees."

Inferences.

Concluding its examination of the possible cause of these successive movements, the report proceeds:

"How the vessel began to lose gas can never be definitely ascertained. Her rolling was exceptionally bad at all stages and we have had evidence of the existence of projections, some of which may have begun to wear the fabric.

The bumpiness of the wind and the pitching of the ships would intensify the strain. Earlier flights had indicated the possibility of leakage through chafing, and, if the vessel rolled through an unusually large angle, through the intermittent opening of the gas valves.

"But it seems very probable that the more serious and sudden loss of gas which followed, was connected with a specific misfortune such as the ripping of the fore part of the envelope.

"Something of this sort had happened on a previous occasion and no amount of care could secure that it would never happen again.

Probable Explanation.

If a tear had begun in the fore part of the envelope it would tend to develop into a larger tear, which would both check the speed and expose the gasbags to additional strain. This seems the most probable explanation of the further loss of gas in increasing quantity and suddenness.

But whatever may have been the precise circumstances, the explanation that the disaster was caused by a substantial loss of gas in very bumpy weather holds the field. This is the unanimous view of all three members of the Court of Inquiry."

After the public sittings of the Court were closed, the National Physical Laboratory was asked to make a series of calculations for the purpose of ascertaining what would be the theoretic movement of the R101 on various assumptions as to the loss of gas, the angle of the elevator, increasing pressure due to the buffets of the wind and so forth.

Experiments Justify Theory.

These calculations were assisted by experiments made with a model, four feet long, which precisely reproduced the external form of the R101, and, by measuring the effect upon this model of currents of air of ascertained velocity when the model was put in various positions in the wind tunnel.

The Court's conclusion as to the cause of the accident is shown by the calculations of the National Physical Laboratory to be consistent with the facts, and to correspond to the assumptions which may reasonably be made.

Lack of Trials.

Dealing with the lack of adequate speed trials, the report says, "It is impossible to avoid the conclusion that the R101 would not have started for India on October 4th, if it had not been that reasons of public policy were considered as making it highly desirable for her to do so if she could. But this is not to say that the authorities, political and technical, who were responsible for or acquiesced in this decision, would ever have done so if they had considered that the risk that was being taken was unjustified."

British Wireless.

GIFTS FOR KING OF SIAM.

MARSHAL CHIANG SENDING PRESENTS.

Nanking, Mar. 31. The Foreign Minister, Mr. C. T. Wang, will be leaving for Shanghai on Thursday to represent Marshal Chiang Kai-shek to welcome the King of Siam.

Mr. Wang will present His Majesty with some gifts from Marshal Chiang Kai-shek, consisting of Ningpo silk and embroidery.

HANKOW FEAR OF RED RISING.

COMMUNIST OUTRAGES AND LABOUR UNREST.

KINNIU CAPTURED.

Hankow, Mar. 31.

A sudden revival of Communist outrages near Hankow and Wuchang, coupled with labour unrest in Hankow City, is causing considerable uneasiness among residents, who fear extremist developments similar to those of 1927.

Japanese sources state that tense feeling exists among the thousands of labourers working on the Bund and on foreign steamers. Many of these workers are making heavy demands on Chinese firms.

By far the most serious incident is reported from Kinniu district, some twenty miles south-east of Wuchang, the commercial and industrial centre of Hupeh. Four thousand Communists, who made a sudden appearance, captured Kinniu after a brief battle with the Government forces. All wealthy individuals and firms were robbed.

This affair has caused much indignation in Wuchang.

The Communist hordes, who were well armed with modern weapons, retreated at dawn on Monday.

ALLEGED BREACH OF TRUST.

BAILIFF'S WATCHMAN ON SERIOUS CHARGES.

A breach of trust by fraudulent converting goods which had been left in his charge as a bailiff's watchman, was alleged against Wong Sik, who appeared before Mr. Williams at the Central Police Court this morning.

The defendant, a watchman under engagement by the Official Receiver, was charged with fraudulently converting to his own use six sacks of iron castings at 24, Wing Wo Street, ground floor, where he had been posted and placed in charge of the goods so that he might retain them in safe custody. There was also an alternative charge of larceny in respect of the castings.

Mr. F. X. d'Almada, jr., appeared for the defendant and asked his Worship to fix a date for the hearing of the case, at the same time applying for bail.

The defendant was remanded until Thursday, April 9, at 2.15 p.m. bail being allowed in the sum of \$500.

YOUNG CHINESE IN FIGHT.

BOTH IN HOSPITAL WITH STAB WOUNDS.

During a fight between two young Chinese in Graham Street yesterday afternoon, one of the men received a stab wound to his shoulder while the other sustained an injury to his head, both being subsequently removed to the Government Civil Hospital for treatment.

According to a police report issued this morning, Cheung Yiu-man, aged 22 years, of no fixed abode, was admitted to the hospital, with a stab wound on his left shoulder, said to have been inflicted by Lee Hui, aged 16, also of no fixed abode. Lee himself had a cut on the head alleged to have been inflicted by Cheung. The latter, however, was the more seriously injured.

AIR FORCE STATION INSPECTION.

SIR JOHN SALMOND MAKES QUICK FLIGHT.

London, Mar. 31. The Air Chief Marshal, Sir John Salmond, who is to make an inspection tour of the Air Force Stations in Malta, Egypt, Palestine and Trans-Jordan, arrived at Malta this afternoon in one of two Iris flying boats which flew 730 miles from Marseilles in 7 1/2 hours. —British Wireless.

MR. STIMSON'S FIRST ASSISTANT.

MR. CASTLE APPOINTED UNDER-SECRETARY.

Washington, Mar. 31. President Hoover has appointed Mr. W. R. Castle, Junior, to be Under-Secretary of State in succession to the late Mr. Joseph Cotton. Mr. Castle has been an Assistant Secretary of State since President Hoover took office. —Reuters's American Service.

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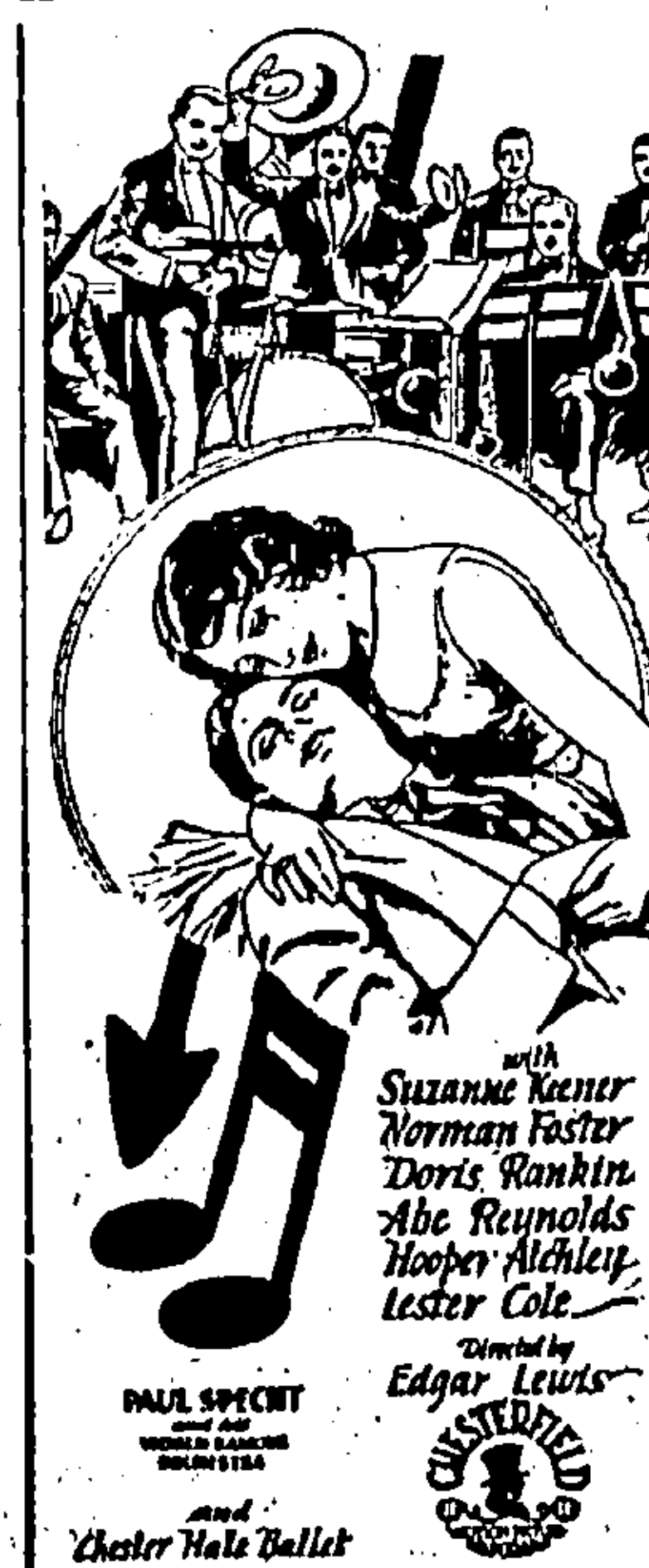
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Messrs. Benjamin & Potts advertise that the interest in the firm of Mr. N. V. A. Croucher ceased as from March 31, 1931, and that Mr. Shi Yu-man has been admitted partner, as from to-day. Mr. N. V. A. Croucher announces that he has established himself as a Stock and Share Broker with offices at Exchange Building under the style of Croucher & Co. Mr. A. H. Potts advises that he has started business as a Stock and Share Broker on his own account.

TALKIE EVENTS! GRAND OPENING Easter Saturday

PRICES
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At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.20

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They learned about
widows from her!

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PRODUCED BY
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TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

GOLDMAN AND SULLIVAN ADVANCE.

Goldman and Sullivan qualified to meet Honda and Akiyama in the fourth round of the doubles tennis championship yesterday, by defeating Segalen and Zimmer in the easiest manner, conceding only one game in two sets.

From the initial stages of the rather one-sided contest, the winners assumed complete control of the exchanges, and because of the poor opposition it is rather difficult to judge their chances against the Japanese pair in the next round. At the same time they revealed many qualities of combination, and confidence in their abilities, together with the reproduction of current form, should be sufficient to carry them into the semi-final.

Ho Ka-lau and Yew Man-kit were rather more extended by the Lees, the match running to twenty-two games before decision. It was a much more attractive engagement than the other tie, all four players brightening up the rallies with good exhibitions of over-head work. Ho and Yew won deservedly, but the losers can be well satisfied with their display against a more experienced pair.

The full results were:
Open Doubles.—Sullivan and Goldman beat Segalen and Zimmer 6-1, 6-0; Ho Ka-lau and Yew Man-kit beat Lee and Lee 7-5, 6-4.
Handicap Doubles.—Robinson and De Landa beat Bowker and Gordon 6-4, 6-2; S. E. and S. D. Green beat Prior and Brooks 6-3, 3-6, 7-5; Keyserling and Jensen beat Colman and Tufton 6-1, 6-3; and Wood and Lenox beat Ferguson and Wilson.
Handicap Singles "A".—Henderson beat Deane 6-1, 6-2.

To-day's Matches.

The following matches are down for decision to-day:
Open Singles.—A. L. Sullivan v M. W. Lo (stand court); Chau v Goldman.
Mixed Doubles.—Mr. and Mrs. Dowley v Baines and Miss Taylor; Jensen and Miss Larsen v Barton and Miss Hallifax; Clarrabutt and Miss Brown v Price and Miss Jones; Stock and Miss Lang v Rile and Miss Rudge; and Sewell and Mrs. Piercy v Humphreys and Miss Thomas.

SHARE PRICES.

TO-DAY'S QUOTATIONS.

The following is the list of local share quotations issued to-day:

Banks.

Hongkong Bank, \$2015 b.
Chartered Bank, \$16¼ n.
Mercantile A. and B., £26½ n.
East Asia \$118 b.

Insurances.

Canton Ins., \$1380 a.
Union Ins., \$620 b.
China Underwriters, \$3.60 b.
China Fire, \$535 n.
H. K. Fire Ins., \$1300 n.

Shipping.

Douglas, \$25 n.
H. K. Steamboats, \$25¼ b.
Indo-China, (Def.) \$30 n.
Union Waterboats, \$36½ n. Div.

Mining.

Benguet, \$10 n.
Kailans, \$3/9 n.
S'hai Explorations, Tls. 5¼ n.
Raub, \$38 b.

Docks, etc.

Kowloon Wharves, \$161 n.
Whampoa Docks, \$29¼ b.
South China Motors \$10 n.
China Providents, \$5.10 b. X. Div.
Hongkew, Tls. 282 b.
New Engineers, Tls. 5¼ b.
Shanghai Docks, Tls. 108 b.

Cottons.

Ewo Cotton Tls. 14.45 b.
S'hai Cotton Tls. 10. b.

Lands, Hotels, etc.

H. and S. Hotels, \$14.30 b.
H. K. Land \$84¼ b.
S'hai Land Tls. 418 b.
Humphreys, \$16.50 s.
Realties, \$10.90 b.

Public Utilities.

Tramways, \$17.75 b.
Peak Trams, (old) \$14¼ n.
Star Ferries, \$90¼ b.
China Lights, (old) \$24.70 a.
H. K. Electric, \$78 b.
Telephones, \$49 b.
China Buses, Tls. 18.20 n.
Singapore Traction, 6/6 a.

Industrials.

China Sugars, 80 cts. n.
Malabona \$40 s.
Canton Ices, \$3.30 s.
Cement (Comb.) \$16.90 b.
Ropes, \$13.50 n.
Venz Goldfields \$3.75 b.

Stores, etc.

Dairy Farms, \$24¼ b.
Watson, \$12.00 n.
Der A. Wing, \$1 n.
Lane Crawford, \$4.25 sa.
Mackintosh, \$20 n.
Sinceros, \$18¼ n.

Miscellaneous.

Amusements, \$20 n.
Constructions, \$6 b.
B'que Ind. G. Bonds, \$68½ b.



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SILK UNDERWEAR, BRIDAL VEILS, FLOWERS, ETC.

ELITE STYLES

The Small Store with the Big Stock.

OBITUARY.

OFFICER WITH FINE WAR RECORD.

London, Mar. 31.

The death is announced of Colonel William Fanshawe Gordon.

Colonel William Fanshawe Gordon was the son of the late Surgeon F. W. Gordon, of the Bengal Staff Corps. He was born in 1876 and educated privately and at Sandhurst. He entered the K.O.Y.L.I. in 1894 and by 1900 had reached the grade of captain. He

was promoted to major in 1914. From 1904 to 1908 he served in Malta and from 1911 to 1913 was General Staff Officer of the 1st Division Canadian Militia, and from 1913 to 1914 Director of Military Operations in Canada. On the outbreak of the European War he became General Staff officer with the Canadian Expeditionary forces, and after that with a division of the British Expeditionary force from 1914 to 1918. Prior to that he served in India on the North West Frontier, and also in the South African war, in both campaigns being wounded and winning medals with clasps.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

CLUB "A" TEAM TO PLAY H.M.S. MEDWAY.

The following will represent the Club "A" to play against H.M.S. Medway to-day at 5.15 on the Club ground:—S. J. H. Fox, J. J. Ferguson, G. R. More, G. A. L. Plummer, G. P. Lammert, R. H. Griffiths, G. P. Ferguson, J. H. McElroy, W. E. Peers, E. F. Buttress, P. M. Hartley, E. Mitford, I. McLennan, E. B. Gammell, B. P. Massey.

In the European War he was mentioned five times in despatches. He retired in 1921.]

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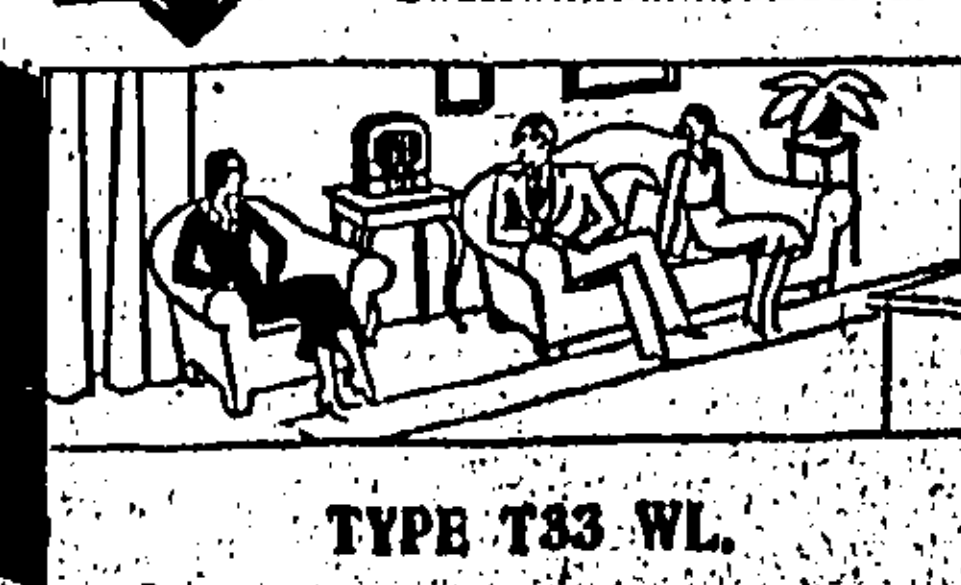
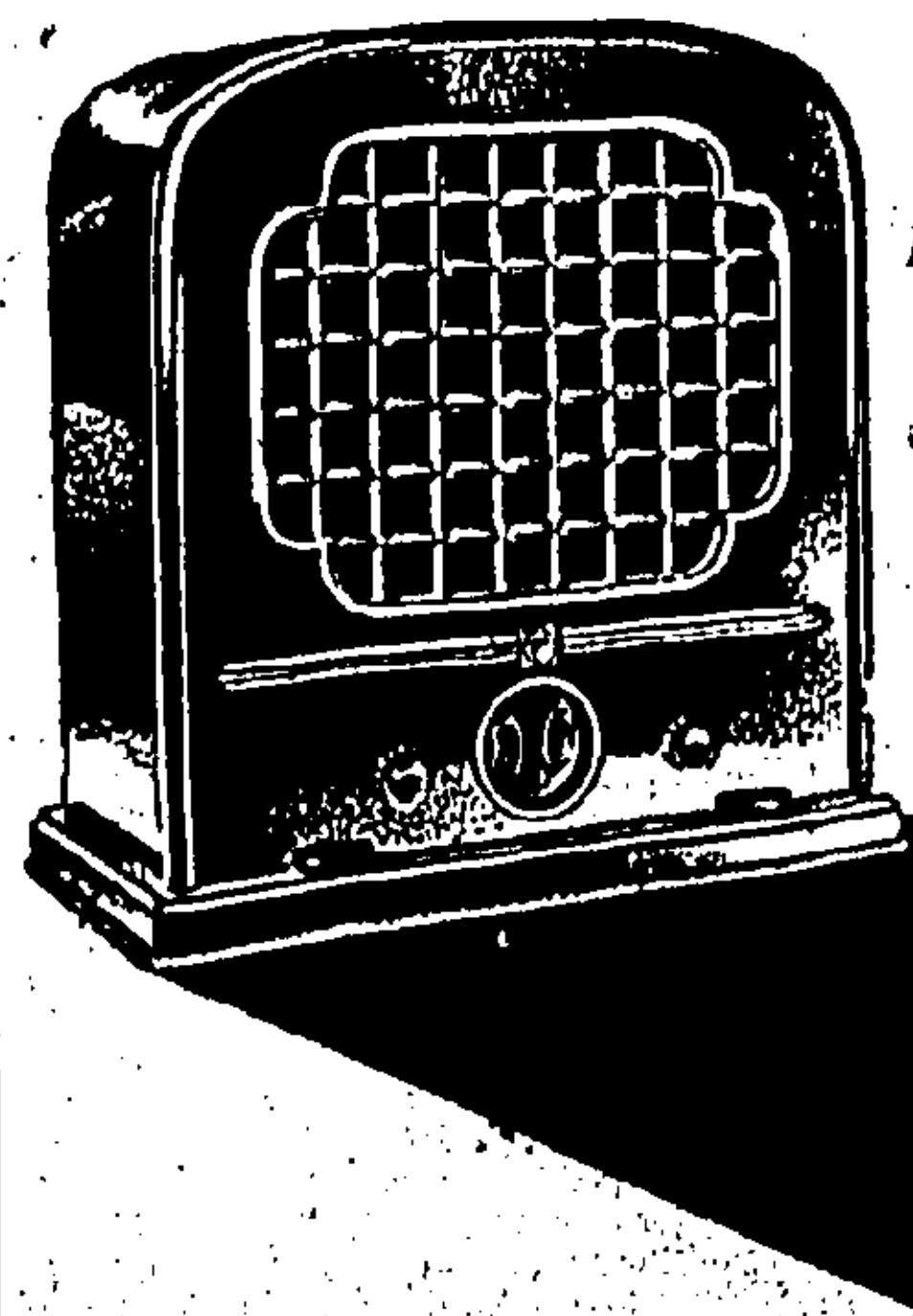
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"TANTRUMS."

"I don't know where sonny gets his temper from," says many a mother. Sometimes she will add, with a meaning looking at hubby: "not from my side of the family. I'm sure."

And if the truth were known, not from either side of the family "Tantrums" are merely a more than ordinarily vigorous protest against things in general, manifested by a high-spirited child.

There are several causes for "tantrums." The child may feel bored for want of a new game or playmate. Another frequent cause is insufficient liquid, for children do not always ask for a drink when they need it, and babies, particularly, very often do not realise when they are thirsty and become peevish without knowing why.

By far the most frequent causes however, are stomach disorder and constipation but with Baby's Own Tablets at hand there is nothing easier to set right. These pleasant-to-take little tablets should be in every nursery for use as both preventative and cure. A tablet given occasionally keeps the child well, tones up the internal organs, stimulates the intestines. Slightly larger doses speedily correct acute stomach and bowel troubles, expel worms, check diarrhoea, while the carefully balanced prescription of the tablets also allays fever, cold, and croup. Especially valuable during teething Baby's Own Tablets quickly banish pain and thus induce sound, natural sleep. Guaranteed to contain no narcotics or other harmful drugs they are the ideal health-safeguard for babies and young children. Keep a bottle handy. All chemists can supply you.

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FRENCH EQUATORIAL AFRICA.**BIG PORT DEVELOPMENT SCHEME.**

In May, 1921, the Governor of French Equatorial Africa decided to urge upon the Colonial Minister that the entire effort to provide that territory with a port should be concentrated upon Pointe Noire which should be equipped on thoroughly up-to-date lines.

In 1925, a beginning was made with the laying out of the harbour: the building of a wharf was put in hand, and by 1929 the work was completed.

The actual construction took up 1,600 cubic metres of cement concrete, 4,000 linear metres of stone, and 300 cubic metres of lime concrete. The equipment comprises a pier for drinking water, connected with the town main, and having a capacity of 2,000 cubic metres per 24 hours;—2 branch-lines linked up with the Congo-Ocean Railway; 8 three-ton travelling cranes, mounted on rails 4 metres apart, and two stationary cranes, of 10 and 20 tons respectively.

As may be supposed, a great deal remains to be done in order to complete the projected scheme.

The general scheme comprises in the first place a breakwater, 1,790 metres long, 800 metres of which will beat off the direct assault of the waves, while 900 metres will ensure the protection of the harbour works.

Inside the breakwater, there will be a harbour, covering a sheltered area of about 225 acres. The channel available for ships of a draught exceeding 10 metres under full load will be at least 150 metres wide.

The deep water harbour will comprise a pier, 190 metres long; a graving dock, 100 metres wide, with a mooring pier, 60 metres long, adjoining it for the use of craft that can be repaired afloat. A tract, 10 acres in area, is set apart to permit of the establishment of the roping plant, of a base for scaplines, and of naval construction yards.

The carrying out of this work of obvious importance, is expected to necessitate an outlay of 300 million francs, out of the 767 million francs of the loan just voted by the Chamber of Deputies.

It has been opined in some quarters that the sponsors of this scheme were men of "one's leaping ambition" and certain it is, considering the conditions in French Equatorial Africa only a short time ago that works of such magnitude would seem to have been devised by engineers afflicted with "swelled head." It is necessary, however, to have an eye to the future, to discern the considerable amount of traffic the Congo-Ocean Railway will give rise to. The nature of the goods that will pour into Pointe-Noire is highly diversified: ores of various descriptions, huge quantities of farm products, such as cotton, palm oil and palm kernels, castor-oil, etc., as well as sundry products of the forests: ebony, mahogany, "ekoume," etc. It is impossible to foretell the vast amount of business that will ensue if—but only if—the great port under construction is completed on the full projected scale.

ALLEGED FALSE PRETENCES.**WATER SERVICE AUTHORITY CLAIMED.**

At the Kowloon Magistracy this morning, before Mr. Hamilton, Li fu-sang appeared to answer two charges of having obtained money by means of false pretences.

The first was of having obtained \$80 from Ho Kam-lin by representing that he would expedite the laying of the water service to Ho's property at Nos. 201, 203, 205, and 207, Tong Mei Road, Shumshui District, when in fact he was not in a position to expedite the work. The second charge was of having obtained unlawfully, with intent to defraud, on or about March 11, from Ho Kam-lin, by implying by words and conduct that he had been authorised by a certain European official to collect \$50 for the purpose of making a presentation to the European, with a view to influencing him to facilitate the laying of water service to certain dwellings in Tong Mei Road, whereas he had not been authorised to do so.

Mr. F. H. Loseby, appearing for the defendant, asked for a remand. He also intimated that the Crown Solicitor would conduct the prosecution.

A week's remand was granted.

We are informed by the Registrar that the annual meeting of the Court of the University, held for the purpose of receiving the Budget for 1931, has, for unavoidable reasons, been postponed until 5.15 p.m. on Monday, April 27. The meeting will be held in the University.

FRANCE AND WORLD DEPRESSION.**IRON AND STEEL FIRMS' REPORT.**

It is well known how unfavourably the year 1930 affected industry all over the world, particularly during the last six months. One might have expected, in surveying the activities of the French Iron and Steel industry, to meet with but few hopeful results. Yet though the last twelve months ended unfavourably in comparison with its earlier months, it is none the less a fact that in France the evil effects of the world crisis in this important branch of heavy industry have been comparatively small.

Let it be observed, in the first place, that during the first half-year not only did the production of pig iron maintain itself on the level of 1929, a favourable year, but the output of steel progressed slightly. The month of May, more particularly, was marked by a record production—355,000 tons. It was during the second half year that the output was unfortunately smaller and that the advance achieved in 1929 was lost, the production falling to 350,000 tons of pig iron and 200,000 tons of steel. It was therefore in July that the general crisis affecting the world actually hit the French Iron and Steel industry. Without comparing this situation with that afforded by other countries, let us rapidly indicate the figures recorded in the United States for the production of iron and steel. In March 1930 the output was 3,246,000 tons of pig iron, while in October it fell to 2,164,000 tons. As to steel, the decline is more startling still: as compared with 4,300,000 tons in March, the output was but 2,720,000 tons in October.

Last year, a sort of stabilisation was already observable in the production of the Iron and Steel trade for the year 1929, but at the same time it was indicated that there was no likelihood of any advance in 1930, but rather the prospect of a declining output. At the end of the year, however, an increase of a few units was recorded as compared with the average number of blast furnaces in operation.

Comparing the figures with those of 1929, it is clear the decline has been slight.

And this condition stands out the more clearly when we come to compare the decline in France with that recorded in other countries. Lumping together, for instance, the production of the United States, Great Britain, Germany, France, Belgium and Luxembourg, we find that for the first ten months of the year 1929, the total output of pig iron was 69,275,000 metric tons, while the corresponding output for the first ten months of 1930 works out at 55,811,000 tons only. Similarly for steel, the total production of the same countries for the corresponding periods was 85,722,000 and 65,405,000 tons respectively.

POLICE EMPLOY A MICROPHONE.**£500 AND ALLEGED MENACES.**

Oscar Hull Merrick, aged 53, of West Byfleet, Surrey, and Edwin Stuttle, aged 46, of Rickmansworth, appeared at Marlborough-street Police Court recently charged with being concerned in demanding £500 with menace from Mr. C. F. Redway, stock and share dealer, of Clifford-street, W., on February 20.

Prosecuting counsel alleged that after a series of articles during five years attacking Mr. Redway in a financial journal controlled by Merrick, an article appeared elsewhere criticising Merrick, who issued a writ for alleged libel.

It was then alleged that Merrick and Stuttle, acting together, demanded £500, promising to stop further attacks if the action were not defended and the money paid. Mr. Redway called in the police and fitted up a microphone, by means of which Inspector Horwell listened to conversations between Mr. Redway and the two men.

Divisional Detective-Inspector Horwell stated that he overheard the following conversation:

"Mr. Redway—I am not paying any money to you regarding the case. I can defend myself. My worry is these articles.

"One of the men (Merrick and Stuttle)—You can forget it. You will see no more attacks if you pay this money.

"Mr. Redway—Are you going to chuck it?

"One of the men—I tell you honestly, for £500 I will chuck it." When arrested Merrick and Stuttle declared that they had come only to discuss law costs. The hearing was adjourned.



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NEW VESSEL BUILT BY W. S. BAILEY AND CO.

Messrs. W. S. Bailey and Co., Ltd.

have launched from their yard at Kowloon a steel ferry boat of 90 feet, to the order of the Hongkong and New Territories Ferry Co., Ltd. The vessel is being fitted with Gardner Engines, 152 horse-power, and the construction is supervised by Messrs. D. A. Purvis and Co., consulting engineers to the owners.

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SANITARY BOARD MEETING.

COMMITTEE APPOINTED FOR REVISION OF ESTIMATES.

At a meeting of the Sanitary Board yesterday afternoon, a minute was put in by the President (Mr. G. R. Sayer) relative to the appointment of a Committee to consider the proposed changes in the Estimates of the Sanitary Department for the present year.

Mr. Wong Kwong-tin seconded the appointment, and the proposal was carried. The following were appointed to the Committee: Dr. W. V. M. Koch, Dr. R. A. de Castro Basto, Mr. M. K. Lo, and Mr. T. N. Chau.

In connexion with an application for the retention of a urinal at No. 307, Queen's Road Central, the Director of Public Works (Hon. Mr. H. T. Creasy), in moving for its rejection, said the urinal was one in excess of that approved by the Board. On that approved and also in view of unsatisfactory conditions resulting from limited space in a backyard and from the premises being very crowded, he asked for the removal of the urinal.

The motion was agreed to.

Members present included Mr. G. R. Sayer (presiding), Hon. Mr. H. T. Creasy, Dr. G. W. Pope (Medical Officer of Health), Dr. W. V. M. Koch, Dr. R. A. Castro Basto, and Messrs. Wong Kwong-tin, F. C. Hall and T. N. Chau; and the Secretary, Mr. J. H. Gelling.

DUMPING OF BODIES.

MORE MALES FOUND THAN FEMALES.

London, Mar. 31.

In the House of Commons Dr. T. Drummond Shiels, replying to a question put by Commander Bellairs, informed the interrogator that of the dead bodies of children found in the streets of Hongkong during the year 1929, out of the total number 956 were of males and 788 of females.

Upon this answer being given Mr. Skelton, member for Perth, remarked: "This is more suitable for the Grand Guignol than for the House of Commons."

The Perfume for You

Captivating by its delightfully fresh but unobtrusive aroma, "4711" Tosca Perfume is the choice of sophisticated women, the very incarnation of charm and beauty.

You will love the complete range of "4711" Tosca Toilettries:

Perfume-Sau de Cologne—fragrant and refreshing—Compact—the ideal powder Vanishing Cream—the perfect foundation for powder—Toilet Soap—Lotion—Brillantine—Face Powder.

Each item is easily recognized by the numeral "4711" on the Blue and Gold Label.

Perfume-Sau de Cologne
Toilet-Powder • Cream • Soap
Lotion • Brillantine

4711 Tosca

GERMAN CLUB.

OPENING OF NEW PREMISES LAST SATURDAY.

Last Saturday night witnessed the re-opening of the German Club in Hongkong, which has its new premises on the fourth floor of No. 2, Connaught Road C.

This club is the resuscitation of the "Club Germania," which was founded here in 1859 and had its premises on Kennedy Road, when the war broke out in 1914. The new premises have been very tastefully furnished and form a suitable home for the revived club. The flat has been entirely refitted and lends itself very well for club purposes. There is a spa-

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THE FUNNY SIDE OF SILVER.

(Continued from Page 2.)

or overwhelmingly influences, the price of silver. I mean the fact that, as I shall presently explain, has confounded Euclid by demonstrating that things that are equal to the same thing are by no means equal one to the other—thereby undermining the very foundations of pure mathematics and consequently disproving the Einstein theory—that, by the way, originated in China.

Before we can consider silver qua tael we have necessarily to put on record certain theories or conventions that are by general agreement accepted as facts, whether they are so or not. Nobody knows who propounded these theories. Who was it, for instance, who first decreed that 98 taels of sycee 935 fine should equal 100 taels of account? Was it the man who invented interest? Nobody knows! On what logical basis is the whole inexplicable higgler-miggler of Chinese standards and values founded? Nobody knows!

But those who would lightly condemn a currency system because nobody knows who founded it, and because only Einstein and myself understand it, may well reflect that China stands alone as the greatest nation of the Allied and enemy states that did not amper with its tokens, during the great trials of the war and the greater trials of the peace. They may well reflect that China never sold the tael to serve the hour, and that it was to silver-using China that India turned to save her gold standard from collapse during the dark days of 1916.

There has been no time within the memory of man when the tael has been other than an honest token—or as honest as could reasonably be expected. There has been no time when a man that possessed a tael of account could not exchange it for a tael of silver. I am not here as a protagonist in the gold versus silver controversy, but I have grave doubts as to whether a system that in less enlightened countries provides credit in exchange for paper, would be readily acceptable in China, whose people, numbering one-fifth of the population of the world, have an age-long preference for the simple and more or less honest usages of the cash shops that call a tael a tael, and do not write it down by fifty per cent. and call it a franc.

Now, having handed this bouquet to the tael, let us see how it establishes itself on a sterling basis, having regard to the sterling price of bar silver that, as we have presupposed, is the truth about silver. Here let me add that somewhat in the sure to point out that my calculations are wrong. I will anticipate this objection by frankly admitting that they are wrong, but they were right the day before yesterday, or whenever it was that I made them. They will invariably be wrong when they are checked, but they would invariably be right if they were checked at some other time. This peculiarity is one of the minor eccentricities of the tael that I am not taking into account.

Values.
Theoretically, a monetary tael of the conventional fineness of 935 is said to equal in value a Chauping weight tael of silver 916-2/3 fine—or, to put it in another way, a thousand Chauping weight taels of silver 935 fine are worth 1076-1/4 monetary taels. The Chauping tael is based on the Canton tael that is taken to weigh 579.84 grains, though in fact its weight is slightly more. One hundred Canton taels are taken to equal 102.5 Chauping Taels, so that a Chauping tael weighs approximately 565.7 grains—at least it does when the mint shops buy silver. When they sell silver they reckon that a hundred Canton taels equal 102.4 Chauping taels. The discrepancy is very slight, but it is not made any lighter by the practice that obtains of using one set of scales and weights for receiving and another set for paying. How these discrepancies between themselves is one of the unsolved mysteries of internal bullion operations in China that no foreigner can hope to understand.

I have said that the Monetary tael is a coin because I possess several of them that I keep by me to confound the experts who persist in denying that the tael has any corporate entity. Still, we know that although it exists as a coin and as a banknote, it is for all practical purposes a conventional unit of account that serves merely as a medium for the adjustment of book balances through its theoretical relation by value to sycee. Actual settlements in silver are made by transfer of shoes of sycee—called "shoes" because they are about the size of small bricks and are shaped like sampans.

Shoes of Sycee.

We have now got to the stage where we can claim some intimate acquaintance with the monetary tael because we have established its apparent parity with its parent sycee, but, bearing in mind the pitfalls that lie in wait for the unwary in China, we shall find it instructive to take an actual shoe of sycee, to work out its value in monetary taels, and to see whether that value conforms with certain other theories and conventions that govern monetary taels *vis-a-vis* sycee. We shall, in fact, put it to the test and find out whether things that are equal to the same thing are necessarily equal one to the other.

Let us take a shoe of sycee. We do not know what its weight is, nor do we know its fineness, because we have neither weighed it nor assayed it, but we have every confidence in it because it has been passed as good honest tender by a Kongku. A Kongku is a kind of public valuer in Shanghai to whom all shoes of sycee are sent by the Mint shops to be attested before being put into circulation. He is appointed by the mint shops and is thoroughly trustworthy, though, like the rest of us, he doubtless recognises that business is business. He tests each shoe in a perfunctory way with a touchstone, but judges it principally by "look see," a method that is probably more reliable than the touchstone. He marks in ink on each shoe his opinion of its weight and fineness.

We find that this shoe has markings—that the unsophisticated might mistake for a Chinese one—that indicate its weight as fifty Chauping taels and its fineness as 2.69 premium. This is the premium per shoe, not the premium per cent. This particular shoe, as it happens to weigh exactly fifty Chauping Taels, saves us some mental arithmetic, as we are able to double the premium and say it is 5.38 per cent premium over what may be termed standard sycee. I have already referred to the convention that 98 Chauping taels of sycee 935 fine are equal to 100 monetary taels of account, and it is this fineness of 935 that the Kongku takes as his standard. If therefore we add to the standard 5.38 per cent we shall find that this shoe is 985.3 fine.

Value in Monetary Taels.

Now, if we want to ascertain its value in monetary taels, we take its weight 50, add its premium 2.69, multiply by 100 and divide by 98. This gives us 53.765, and if 50 Chauping taels of sycee 985.3 fine are worth 53.765 monetary taels, then a simple calculation leads us to the conclusion that a thousand Chauping taels 985 fine are worth 1074-2/3 monetary taels, as against the convention that they are equal to 1076-1/4. A very trifling difference indeed but we find these trifling differences at every one of the several stages of the evolution of bar silver into monetary taels.

So far we have dealt only with the conversion of sycee, but we have to bear in mind that sycee itself is an evolutionary product of bar silver. The mint shops take a fixed rate for the conversion of bar silver into monetary taels payable in sycee. They pay in sycee or did until recently, 110.80 monetary taels for 100 Canton taels weight of bar silver 998 fine.

In considering this convention we have to remember what I have already stated that when they buy the silver they reckon 102.5 Chauping taels are equal to 100 Canton taels. When they pay for it by delivering the sycee they reckon only 102.4 as the equivalent,

Also, in the formula they use to arrive at the conversion rate of 110.80, they allow only 1 per cent. for the superior fineness of bar silver over sycee. As the latter is reduced by copper alloy to about 985 fine, this allowance assumes that bar silver is about 995 fine instead of 998 fine. So here we have another slight difference. If we export sycee for remelting into bar silver, and base our outturn upon the certified markings of the Kongku, we shall find that in an average shipment of 20,000 shoes there will be a still further loss of 2 per cent. on fineness and 2 per cent. on weight. These little losses, moreover, occur when we have announced that we are buying sycee especially for export, in which case the mint shops charge us 1/32 per cent. more for what is termed new sycee—that is, the really real sycee, and not the ordinary sycee that is only real sycee. So here we have another slight difference.

Subject for Prayer.

Gentlemen, I have said enough about sycee in China to convince you, I hope, that it is a subject more fit for prayer and fasting than for half an hour's consideration afteriffin. With all its peculiarities it is deserving of respect. The Late Mr. Stephen, of the Hongkong Bank, told me, about seven years ago, that the honesty of sycee was the safeguard of China's currency. My own experience during fifteen years as a bank manager accords entirely with the view of the ablest and greatest of the managers of our time. If I have dwelt lightly on some of the minor eccentricities of silver in China it is because they afford more scope for a sketchy address at an hour's notice, than would a more serious consideration of the essential soundness of China's currency.

If I discussed silver seriously I would take you back to the transition stage of Japan from silver to gold, to the break-up of the Latin Union, to the memorable controversy on bimetalism that, from the seventies, had a profound effect on the tangled tale of American currency for a quarter of a century. There is a fascination in studying the views of the unreasoning advocates of "cheap and abundant money," as there is something intriguing about that protest of William Jennings Bryan against the crucifying of humanity upon a cross of gold. Perhaps he lived too soon! Who knows?

The history of silver in respect to the currency of India is related in the voluminous reports of the many commissions that have at various times dealt with the subject. The appointment of Commissions to deal with subjects in fact is so marked a feature of the Government of India that one sometimes wonders when it governs. Here also, in Hongkong, we have had our Currency Committee. Its report you have never been allowed to see, and perhaps the Government has acted wisely in withholding it from you. Certainly there are more entertaining books that you might read, though none perhaps of greater heart interest. At any rate that report has been responsible for the landing here today of a Commission appointed by the Home Government, and as we shall all be affected by its findings we may say in all sincerity that we welcome its members and look forward, with confidence, to the successful accomplishment of the difficult task they have before them.

Rotarian Bousfield expressed the Club's thanks to Mr. Champkin for his address.

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MACAO'S GOVERNOR.

HEARTY WELCOME ON HIS ARRIVAL.

Macao, Mar. 30. The Portuguese colony of Macao looked its best on the occasion of the arrival of His Excellency Commander J. A. Mata Oliveira, the new Governor of the colony, who arrived from Hongkong at about four o'clock in the afternoon by the Portuguese gunboat Adornador.

The Outer Port, where the landing took place, was the scene of much activity from an early hour, and flags and bunting decked the new wharf where His Excellency Governor Oliveira was to step ashore later in the day. The day was a splendid one, and the bright sunshine of the morning was succeeded by an overcast sky, and the crowds which were drawn up in front of the wharf to welcome the new governor were spared the severe heat of the morning.

At about three o'clock the waiting public of the approach of the Adornador with Commander Oliveira aboard, and the crowds landing to the Outer Port were thronged by the residents of the colony who were anxious to receive the new governor.

Commander Almeida Pinheiro, Harbour Master, and Commander

A. Carmona, Chief of the Water Police, proceeded in the Demetrio Cinatti, the Governor's launch, to receive Governor Oliveira, who stepped from the Adornador to the launch and was conveyed to the landing stage, where the Members of the Government Council, of the Municipal Council, Government Officials, Officers of the Army and Navy, and other persons were waiting to receive him. As Governor Oliveira stepped ashore a battery of guns boomed out their welcome.

Among Those Present.

Among the many persons who were present to receive Governor Oliveira were Dr. J. Magalhães, Officer Administering the Government, Dr. Horacio Carvalho, Resident, Dr. F. Dias Costa, Colonial Treasurer, Col. Schlappa Monteiro, Director of the Public Works and Port Works Departments, Dr. Lew Yuk Lin, Mr. A. A. de Mello, Mr. J. F. Sales da Silva, Canon Bartholo, Acting in the absence of the Bishop of Macao, Mr. Antonio Basto, Commissioner of Chinese Customs, Dr. Cordeiro, Dr. J. Amaral, Chief of the Medical Services, Dr. Americo Jorge, Dr. Moreira Palha, Father A. M. Alves, Director of St. Joseph's Seminary College, Col. J. A. Lobato, Officer in Charge of Police and Colon, Major J. G. Andrade, Chief of Staff, Major J. G. Andrade, Commissioner of Police, Mr. Henrique Nolasco da Silva, Mr. E. L. da Silva, Mr.

Gregorio Fernandes, Mr. B. Senna Fernandes, Mr. Lee Chai-long, Mr. Ko Ho-ning, Mr. Too Fui-hon, Mr. Jacques Garcia, Mr. Morroiro Pinto, Director of Postal and Telegraph Services, Mr. P. Tinoco, Rev. Father Soares, Rev. Father Sarmiento, Commander Valente Almeida, Commander Ferrolra, Mr. F. Rodrigues, Mr. Antonio M. da Silva, Mr. Fernandes Costa, Mr. Wong Yee Chiu, Rev. Father A. Luz, Rev. A. Barreto, and many others.

After being presented to the persons who were waiting on the landing stage, Governor Oliveira, accompanied by Dr. Magalhães, and their aides-de-camp, Capt. Afonso May and Capt. A. Major, respectively, inspected the Guard of Honour which was drawn up in front of the Government Warehouses in the New Port.

Seaplane Demonstrates.

During the ceremony connected with the landing, Commander J. Cabral in a Macao seaplane circled overhead, and the bands of the Macao Municipal Council and of the Salesian Institute played several selections.

From the landing stage, accompanied by Dr. J. Magalhães, Officer Administering the Government, Governor Oliveira proceeded by motor-car to the Municipal Hall, where a large assembly awaited him to greet him and give him welcome.

In front of the Municipal Building, a Guard of Honour, consisting of units from the Macao Police Force, was drawn up to receive Commander Oliveira, and after inspecting the guard, His Excellency the Governor entered the Municipal Building, the members of the Municipal Council receiving him at the entrance. They were Mr. Henrique Nolasco da Silva, Mr. A. A. de Mello, Mr. Jacques Garcia, Mr. E. L. da Silva, and Mr. B. Senna Fernandes, with Major J. G. Andrade, Commissioner of Police, accompanied by Mr. V. do Rosario, Secretary of the Council.

The party then proceeded to a raised dais where the ceremony of taking over office was to be performed, and where in addition to His Excellency the Governor and Dr. Magalhães, members of the Macao Government Council and the Municipal Council and other officials were seated.

Addressing Commander Oliveira, Dr. Magalhães said that he handed over the administration of the colony to a distinguished Portuguese officer who had shown proofs of his ability in various administrative posts entrusted to him by his Government. He referred to the special problems confronting the Government, particularly due to the unprecedented low rates of exchange, and sketched the situation of the colony at the present time. He referred to the friendly relations subsisting between the authorities at Macao and neighbouring administrations and expressed the hope that the new Governor would be fortunate in his administration of the colony the reins of office of which he was then taking over.

No Stranger to Colony.

Speaking on behalf of the people of Macao, Mr. Henrique Nolasco da Silva, as Chairman of the Macao Municipal Council, welcomed Governor Oliveira as the Governor of the Colony, referring to his previous residence in Macao as a circumstance which made him no stranger to the problems of this colony. He then proceeded to sketch the special problems of Macao, referring to the colony's needs in several directions, especially to the need for the

development of industry and trade, to the solution of the problem for supplying potable water in the colony, to the hardships due to the adverse exchange rates, and to the need for the adoption of measures for the relief of business due to several circumstances.

Concluding, he assured the Governor of the help and co-operation of the people of the colony and of the Municipal Council of Macao, and handed to Governor Oliveira the keys of the city.

Returning thanks Commander Oliveira said that he felt greatly honoured to receive the keys of the city, but handed them to the Municipal Council for safe keeping. He thanked the previous speakers for their expressions of goodwill and hoped that with their assistance and co-operation it would be possible to solve the problems confronting the government of the colony.

He mentioned that he had a special affection for Macao, for it was in this colony that he had begun his official career. He had already heard of the hardships wrought to the business and the people of Macao by the unfortunate state of exchange and assured his hearers that the Government of Portugal viewed the problem in a sympathetic light, and would take whatever steps that could be advantageously adopted to remedy the situation.

He referred to the cordial relations subsisting between the Government of Macao and neighbouring authorities in China and the British colony of Hongkong. He hoped that those relations would be cemented by closer ties of friendship in the future.

He concluded by hoping that Macao would be blessed with prosperity, and that he would be given the support of the people of the colony.

Following the ceremony of signing the papers of office, Governor Oliveira repaired to the Government House where the principal residents of the colony called on the new Governor to pay their respects.

FATAL MOTOR MISHAP IN CITY.

ELDERLY WOMAN KILLED BY MOTOR CYCLIST.

A motor accident, which resulted in the death of an old Chinese woman, near the intersection of Ice House Street and Queen's Road Central on March 22, was the subject of an inquest held by Mr. Williams, at the Central Police Court yesterday afternoon.

Dr. G. H. Thomas, medical officer at the Government Civil Hospital, said the woman was admitted in an unconscious condition and continued in that state until she passed away about an hour afterwards. Death was due to a fractured skull and injuries to the brain.

The injuries, said witness, were consistent with the patient falling on her head after being knocked over. She had bound feet.

Rider's Evidence.

Lee Wing-chen, a clerk at the Dollar Steamship Company, said that at about 3.15 p.m., on March 22, he was driving his motor-cycle solo through Queen's Road Central, proceeding westwards. As he approached the intersection of Ice House Street, an old woman suddenly appeared from the left and got in his way. She was three yards in front of his machine

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All broken, chafed, and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on any Tuesdays and Fridays between the hours of 10.45 a.m. and noon within the free storage period.

No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the steamer's Godown, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 6th April, will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before the 20th April, or they will not be recognized.

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All claims must be sent to the undersigned before the Wednesday, the 8th April, 1931, or they will not be recognized.

Damage Packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the consignees, and the Company's Surveyor, Messrs. Goddard and Douglas at 10.00 a.m. on Monday, the 6th April, 1931.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godowns.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us any case whatever.

R. OHL, Agent.

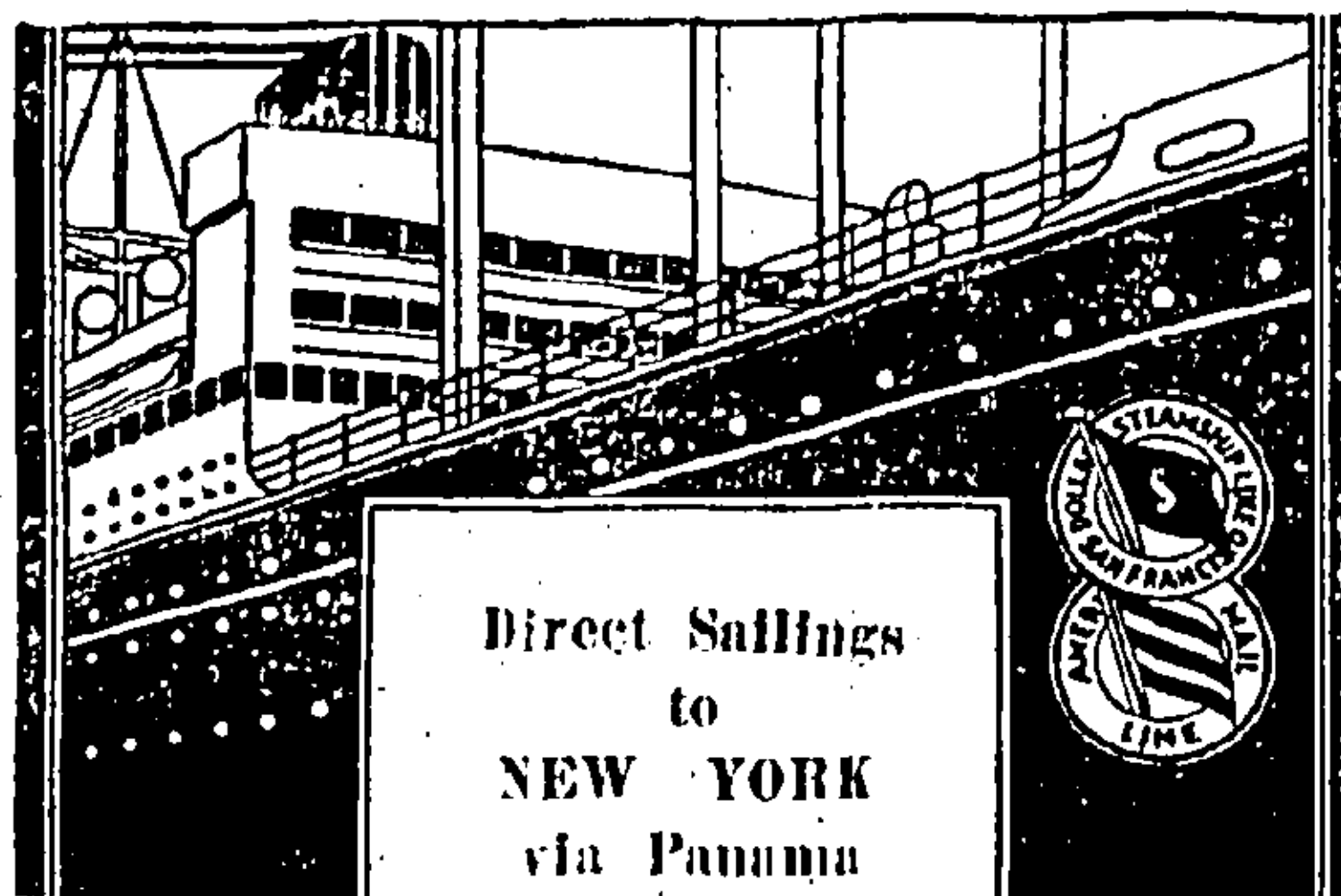
Hongkong, 30th March, 1931.

and two yards to his left when he first sighted her and sounded his horn.

The woman was knocked down by the front wheel, the impact diverting the machine to the right. He brought the machine to a standstill on the right side of the road and returned to the spot, to find the woman lying unconscious.

Replying to the Coroner, witness said he was travelling at 10 miles an hour before the accident, having slowed down in view of his approaching the traffic post at the intersection and having regard also to the slight bend which occurred before St. Francis Hotel was reached.

After hearing further evidence the jury returned a verdict of accidental death, without attaching any blame to the driver.



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Pros. Adams ... Sun. Apr. 19, 8 a.m. ... Pros. Fillmore ... Sun. May 31, 8 a.m.
Pros. Harrison ... Sun. May 3, 8 a.m. ... Pros. Monroe ... Sun. June 14, 8 a.m.

To Manila

Pros. Polk ... Apr. 5, 8 a.m. ... Pros. Adams ... Apr. 19, 8 a.m.
Pros. McKinley ... Apr. 7, 6 p.m. ... Pros. Lincoln ... Apr. 21, 6 p.m.
Pros. Jefferson ... Apr. 11, 6 p.m. ... Pros. Lincoln ... Apr. 25, 6 p.m.

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SPHINX ... 26th May
PORTHOS ... 9th June
CHENONOUAUX ... 23rd June
ATHOS II ... 7th July
D'ARTAGNAN ... 21st July

G. METZINGER ... 13th Apr.
SPHINX ... 27th Apr.
PORTHOS ... 11th May
CHENONOUAUX ... 25th May
ATHOS II ... 8th June
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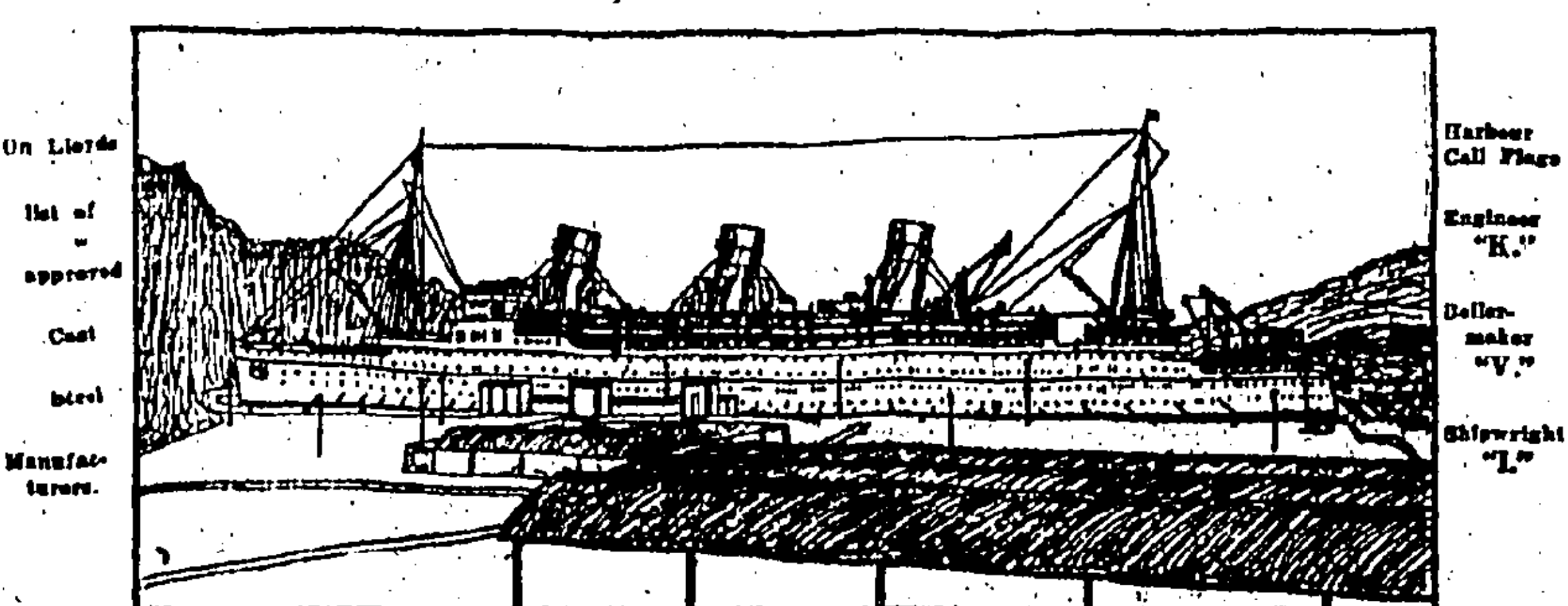
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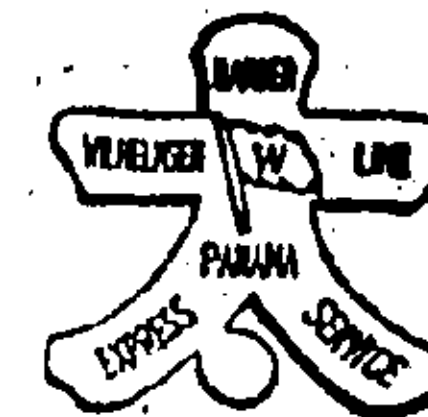
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S. S.	Tonnage	From Hongkong (about)	Destination
*MIRZAPORE	6,715	8th Apr.	Straits, Colombo & B'bay
*KARNATA	9,128	11th Apr.	M'ses, L'don, Hull, Rotterdam & Antwerp
RAJPUTANA	16,586	25th Apr.	Marseilles & London
*SOUDAN	—	2nd May	M'ses, L'don, Hull, Rotterdam & Antwerp
*KIDDERPORE	5,334	5th May	Straits, Colombo & B'bay
*KALYAN	9,144	9th May	M'ses, L'don, Hull, Rotterdam & Antwerp
COMORIN	15,132	23rd May	Bombay, M'ses & L'don
*KASHMIR	8,985	6th June	M'ses, L'don, Hull, Rotterdam & Antwerp
RANPURA	16,601	20th June	Bombay, M'ses & L'don

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BRITISH INDIA-APCAR SAILINGS

SANTHA	TAKADA	Tonnage	Departure	Destination
7,754	10,000	6,949	4th Apr. 11 a.m.	S'pore, Penang & Calcutta
			18th Apr.	S'pore, Penang & Calcutta
			3rd May	S'pore, Penang & Calcutta

B. I. Aparcar Line steamers have excellent accommodation for 1st and 2nd class passengers. All steamers are fitted with wireless and carry a qualified surgeon.

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN SAILINGS (South)

NELLORE	TAKADA	Tonnage	Departure	Destination
6,853	6,956	4,500	1st May.	Manila, Rabaul, Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne
			30th May.	
			1st July.	

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Frequent connections from Australia with the following:-

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The New Zealand Shipping Co.'s Steamers for Southampton and London via Panama Canal.

SAILINGS TO SHANGHAI & JAPAN

NELLORE	TAKADA	Tonnage	Departure	Destination
6,853	6,949	9,144	6th Apr.	S'hai, Moji, Kobe, Osaka & Yoko
			11th Apr.	Amoy, S'hai, Moji, Kobe & Osaka
			10th Apr.	S'hai, Moji, Kobe & Yoko
			16th Apr.	S'hai, Kobe & Yoko
			24th Apr.	Amoy, Moji, Kobe & Osaka
			24th Apr.	S'hai, Kobe & Yoko
			8th May	Amoy, Moji, Kobe & Osaka
			8th May	S'hai, Moji, Kobe & Yoko
			22nd May	S'hai, Kobe & Yoko

*Cargo only.

All dates are approximate and subject to alteration without notice.

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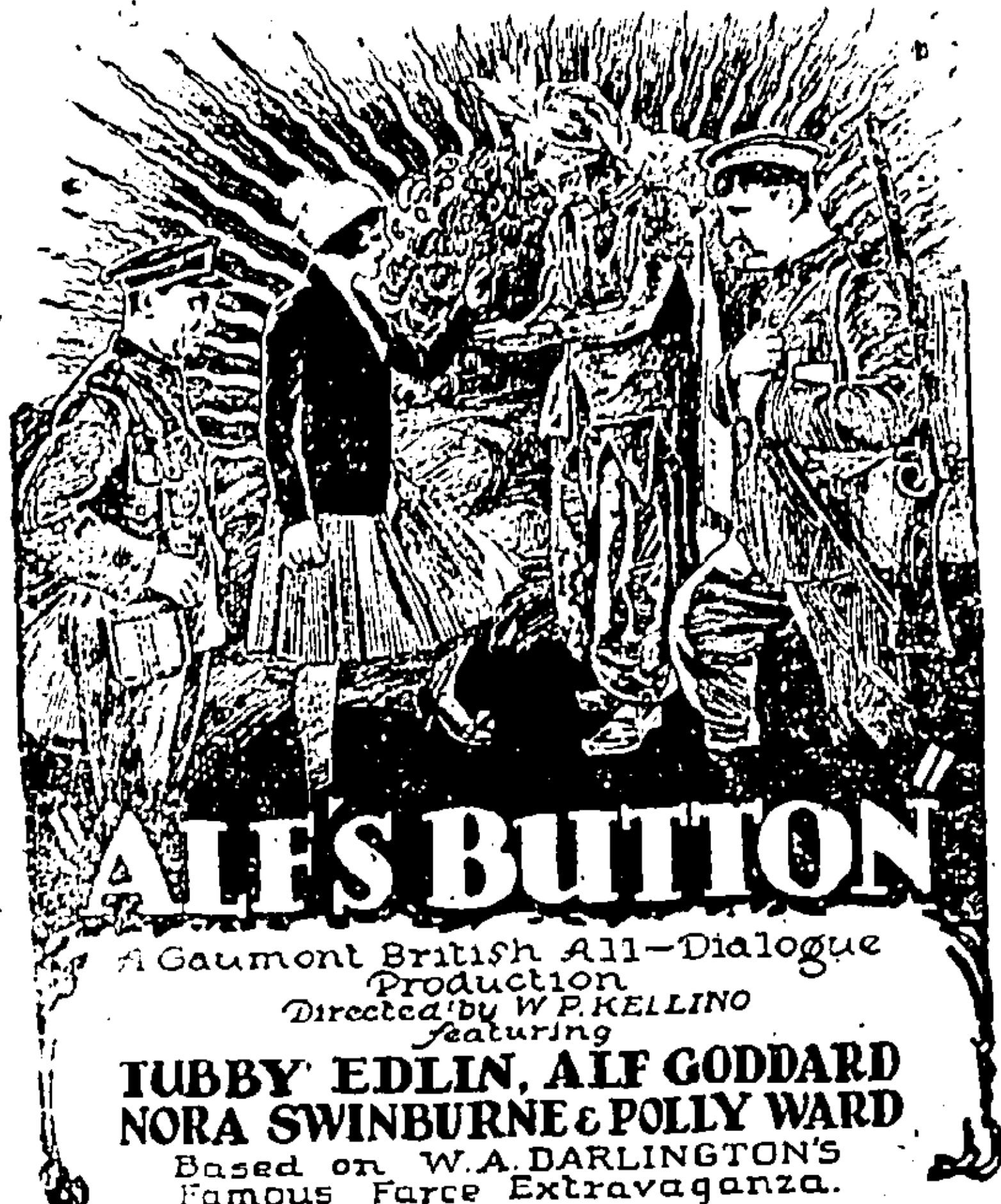
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Death of King's Secretary.

Lord Stamfordham Passes Away.

G.O.M. OF COURT.

London, Mar. 31. Lord Stamfordham, the King's private secretary, who had been ill for some time past, made good progress towards recovery, and suffered a relapse a few days ago, passed away this evening in his 82nd year.

Arthur John Bigge, soldier, private secretary to two Monarchs, and the first Lord Stamfordham, was the son of the Rev. J. F. Bigge, Vicar of Stamfordham, near Newcastle-on-Tyne, and was born in June, 1849.

He entered the Army in early life, obtaining a commission to the Royal Artillery in 1869, and ten years later served in the Zulu war as A. D. C. to Sir Evelyn Wood. The campaign opened disastrously with the destruction of a British force of 800 at Isandlwana, but in a few months the Zulu power was crushed.

In 1880, the future Lord Stamfordham became assistant private secretary to Queen Victoria and after holding other Court posts was made her private secretary and knighted in 1895.

At once he set to work to sweep away much of the antiquated routine of the Court and introduced modern businesslike methods.

After Queen Victoria's death in 1901, the Prince of Wales (later King George) appointed him his secretary and he remained in that post after the Prince came to the throne on the death of Edward VII in May, 1910. Next year he was raised to the peerage.

Lord Stamfordham was a man of sound judgment and had an intimate knowledge of State affairs, in his relations with the King he is reputed to have been as much a counsellor as a secretary. He was methodical and painstaking, and his letters were models of language and style. The King's illness early in 1929 added much to his heavy and responsible duties, but in spite of his advanced age he met all demands made upon

PRINCE'S BEDROOM BROKEN INTO.

RECENT INCIDENT AT BUENOS AIRES.

New York, Mar. 31.

It has just been revealed that while the Prince of Wales and Prince George were enjoying the hospitality of Buenos Aires on March 14, Prince George's bedroom at the British Embassy was broken into, and ransacked.

Prince George lost a large amount of personal jewellery of considerable value, but all of it was subsequently recovered by the police.

The thief is alleged to be a prominent young Argentinian. — *Reuter's American Service.*

MILITARY SERVICE EXPENDITURE.

BRITAIN ALONE SHOWS ANY MARKED DECREASE.

London, Mar. 31.

Answering a question in the House of Commons to-day, the Minister for War, Mr. Tom Shaw, said preliminary figures showed that only in the case of Great Britain was there any substantial percentage decrease in 1930, compared with 1924, in national expenditure on the military services.

In the case of Japan, there had been a small decrease, but in respect of France, Italy, United States and Russia there were increases. — *British Wireless.*

him readily. Any spare time he devoted to golf. Hence his wonderful preservation of vigorous health in his old age. He lost his only son in the war in 1916, but he had also two daughters.

Among his foreign decorations were that of Grand Officer of the Legion of Honour and the Grand Cross of the Danish Order of the Dannebrog.

Lady Stamfordham, who was a daughter of the Rev. W. F. Neville, Vicar of Butleigh, died in 1922.

EFFECT OF FALL IN DOLLAR.

FURTHER VOTES NEEDED BY GOVERNMENT.

SHIPPING PARLEY.

Seven votes totalling \$22,012 are to come before the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council to-morrow afternoon, the majority being necessitated by the drop in the dollar.

One of the items is for \$2,133 for the purchase of raw opium, this representing the deficiency on previous votes, due to the fall in exchange.

A sum of \$3,819 is to be asked for in respect of special apparatus for ultra violet ray and electrical therapy. The actual sterling expenditure was less than that estimated, the excess being entirely due to fall in exchange.

Another vote is for \$4,706 for various items of which provision was made based on a 1s. 10d. dollar. Due to the drop in exchange, the sums are insufficient for sterling payments.

Three delegates are to be sent to India to attend the Merchant Shipping Round Table Conference at Simla, and a sum of \$6,408 is needed to meet their expenses. A further vote of \$3,621 is to be asked for as estimated acting pay for officers owing to the absence of the Hon. Comdr. G. F. Hole at the Conference named.

CONSTRUCTION CO. REPORT.

PROPOSED DIVIDEND OF 30 CENTS.

The Directors of the Hongkong Engineering and Construction Co., Ltd., will, at the forthcoming meeting of shareholders to be held on 22nd April, 1931, recommend the following allocation of profits, after writing off \$16,819.57 for plant and machinery, motor trucks, motor junk, etc:

To pay a dividend of 15%, viz., 30 cents per share	\$28,650.00
To carry forward to credit of next year's account	28,791.55
	\$57,441.55

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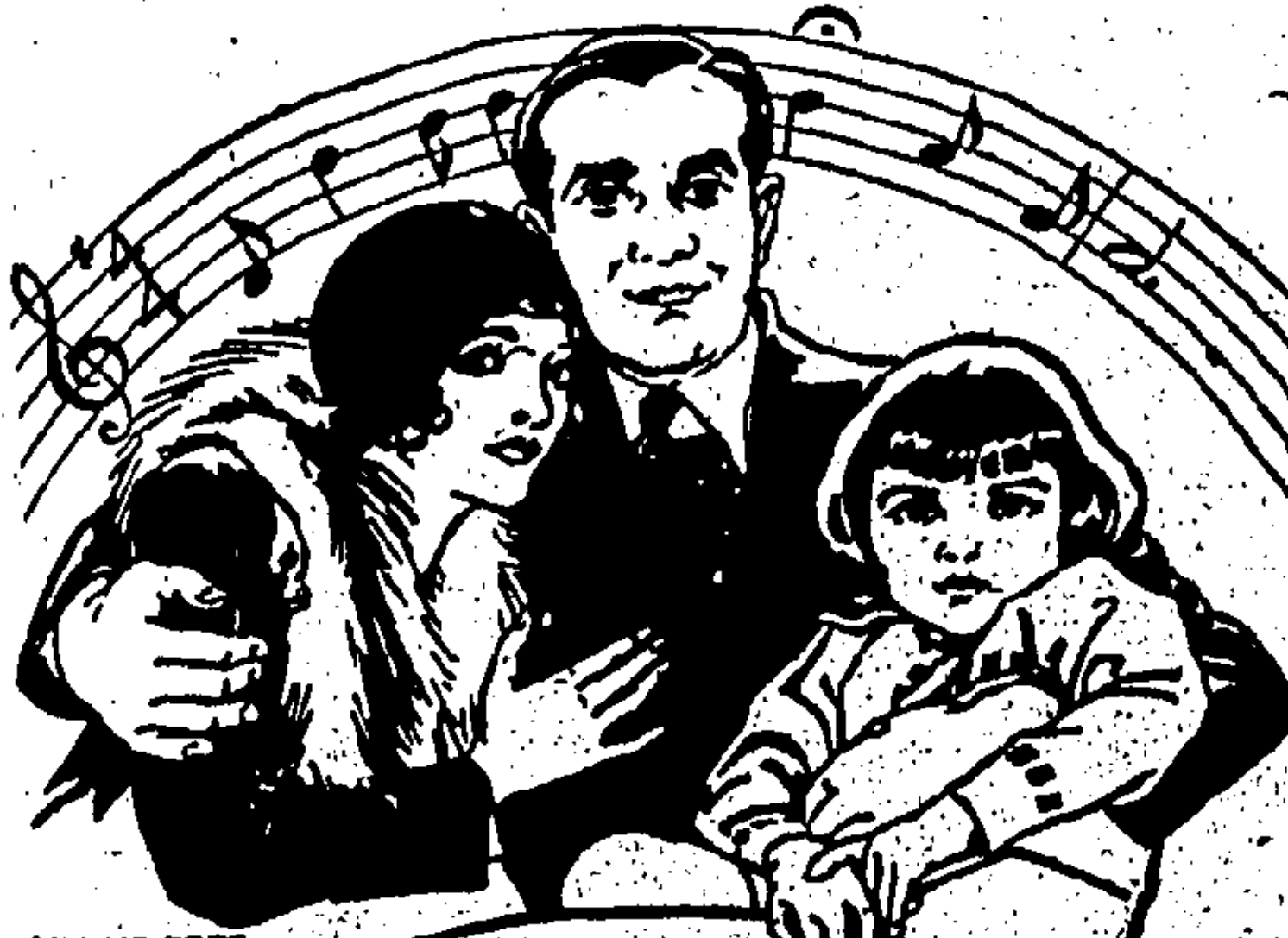
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